

“Preclinical models to understand the risk of multiple concurrent medicines in old age: What are we up to?”

Speaker: John Mach, Post-Doctoral Research Fellow and Laboratory Manager, Laboratory of Ageing and Pharmacology, Kolling Institute of Medical Research



Biography:

John Mach is currently a Postdoctoral Research Fellow and Laboratory Manager at the Laboratory of Ageing and Pharmacology, Kolling institute. He studied his undergraduate -Honours at UNSW and earned his PhD at USYD, supervised by Professor Sarah Hilmer, using preclinical models to investigate risk of drug induced liver injury in old age. His work now focuses on utilising preclinical models to understand the risks of multiple concurrent medicines in old age, with the aim to optimise medication use for older people.

Abstract:

Chronic medication use is common in older people to treat and manage chronic diseases and illnesses. Observational studies indicate polypharmacy (the use of 5 or more medications) is associated with impaired physical function, cognition, dependence in daily activities and increased frailty in older people. The mechanism behind this is likely multifactorial and poorly understood.

Preclinical models of clinically relevant drug exposures in ageing would be useful tools to screen and learn more about drug induced adverse geriatric outcomes. This presentation will describe some of the important developments in this research. Our recent experiments investigate pharmacokinetics, age and sex interactions with drug effects, deprescribing (cessation of medication) effects of Polypharmacy on the microbiome and on the cardiometabolic systems.

All welcome!

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