

Defining the clinical, therapeutic and immunogenetic profile in myelin oligodendrocyte glycoprotein antibody-associated disease (MOGAD)

Primary supervisor:

Associate Professor Sudarshini Ramanathan

Auxiliary Supervisors:

Professor Russell Dale

Professor Fabienne Brilot

Location:

Translational Neuroimmunology Group, University of Sydney

Start:

2023 onwards

Project Outline:

MOG antibody-associated disease (MOGAD) is now established as an increasingly recognised condition which can result in lasting disability including blindness and paralysis. Early detection and effective treatment with immunotherapy can allow patients to return to their normal function and quality of life, rendering it a compelling focus for research. In 2014 our research team initiated and has since led the Australasian MOGAD Study Group, a national multicentre collaboration of over 150 neurologists from over 45 centres in Australasia. We are responsible for evaluating one of the largest international cohorts of patients with MOGAD including approximately 400 adults and 300 children. The PhD candidate undertaking this project will perform detailed analysis of patients in this cohort with a focus on the clinical, radiological, immunogenetic, biomarker, and therapeutic characterisation of this disorder. The student will further be a key player in national multicentre epidemiological studies and clinical trials we lead, and have additional opportunities to build laboratory experience in neuroimmunology.

Funding opportunities can be discussed, and support is available. This project will be ideally suited as a PhD for a neurology advanced trainee or fellow with a commitment to building expertise in neuroimmunology. This project will be led by A/Professor Darshi Ramanathan who heads the Translational Neuroimmunology Group at the University of Sydney, and is the lead investigator of the Australasian MOGAD Study Group. The PhD candidate will be based at Concord Hospital and the Westmead Health Campus over the course of their higher degree.

Contact:

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