

## 2018 Seminar

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### Identifying the genetic and environmental causes of birth defects

**Prof Sally Dunwoodie, PhD BSc**  
**Head, Embryology Laboratory**  
**Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute**

Sally Dunwoodie gained a PhD researching the genetics of muscle development, at the Children's Medical Research Institute, University of Sydney. She undertook postdoctoral training in embryology at the National Institute for Medical Research in London. There she identified numerous genes necessary for normal mammalian embryogenesis. She has defined genetic causes of congenital vertebral defects with diagnostic genetic tests now available worldwide. Sally is embracing some of the newest genomic technologies to identify disease-causing mutations in hundreds of families with heart defects, among others. She is also exploring the impact that environmental factors and gene-environment interaction have on embryogenesis. She has received awards including the ANZSCDB Emerging Leader Award, was a 2016 finalist in the NSW Premier's Woman of the Year Award, and won the NSW Premier's Prize for Excellence in Medical Biological Science in 2017. Sally Dunwoodie heads the Embryology Laboratory and the Chain Reaction Program in Congenital Heart Disease Research at the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute in Sydney. She is a Professor in the Faculties of Medicine and Science at the University of New South Wales.



#### DATE

**THURS 3  
MAY**

#### TIME

**12.00PM – 1.00PM**

#### LOCATION

**TRF BUILDING  
LEVEL 2, SEMINAR  
ROOMS 1 + 2**