

Bio of Derek Richard, PhD

Associate Professor Derek Richard is an expert on DNA stability and repair pathways. Of note, he discovered the human SSB family of proteins and characterised their critical role in maintaining genetic stability. This work led to two patent applications and the commercialization of technology he developed.

In the past 5 years, Dr. Richard has published 28 manuscripts and been invited to present his work at 18 international and 8 national conferences. He has published in *Nature*, *Genes and Development*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, the *Journal of Cell Science*, *Journal of Pathology*, *Nucleic Acids Research*, and the *Journal of Biological Chemistry*. He has received over \$2.2M in research funding in the past 5 years.

Dr. Richard obtained his PhD in microbial biochemistry from the University of Dundee (Scotland) in 1999. His research interest then moved from the bacterial domain of life to Achaea where he worked as a Postdoctoral Fellow in the laboratory of Dr. Malcolm White studying Archaeal DNA repair systems.

Dr. Richard moved to Queensland, Australia in 2004 to join the team of Dr. Kum Kum Khanna at the QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute. He then moved his research team to the Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation at QUT in February of 2011. Dr. Richard has licensed technologies to and works as a consultant for Cancer Therapeutics. His latest research has led to the initiation of a clinical trial sponsored by Cancer Research UK.

Dr. Richard has successfully transitioned his focus to translational projects and clinical trials. He will share his experience in this journey and highlight common mistakes that hinder true translation to the clinic and give advice on strategic grant writing for both within the Australian system and international funding sources.