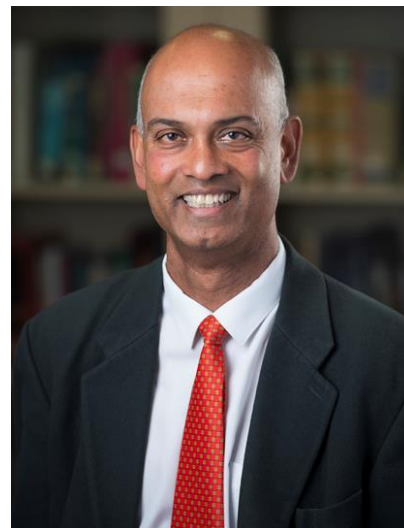


Professor Suresh Sundram MBBS MMed FRANZCP PhD
Head, Department of Psychiatry, School of Clinical Sciences,
Monash University and Director of Research,
Mental Health Program, Monash Health, MELBOURNE

Professor Suresh Sundram is Chair and Head, Department of Psychiatry, School of Clinical Sciences, Monash University, and Director of Research for both the Mental Health Program, Monash Health, and the Cabrini Asylum Seeker and Refugee Health Program, Melbourne.

At Monash University, Prof Sundram heads the Translational Molecular Psychiatry research division, which aims to develop novel, disease-modifying treatments for psychotic disorders, particularly schizophrenia, using a broad translational approach.

Prof Sundram has spent three decades investigating the molecular pathology of schizophrenia and related psychotic disorders using pharmacological, neurochemical and neuropathological approaches. These inter-related methods have been applied to parse components of the disorder, such as treatment resistance and suicide, to better understand their neurobiological substrates.



He undertook his doctoral and post-doctoral studies at the Mental Health Research Institute in Melbourne before establishing his laboratory there, and subsequently at the Florey Institute, and concurrently establishing a clinical research laboratory undertaking clinical trial and biomarker research in psychotic disorders. He then transferred and integrated his research program into the Translational Molecular Psychiatry program at Monash University and Monash Medical Centre. Together, this has permitted rapid and seamless translational research between molecular and clinical approaches. The work has resulted in more than 150 published scientific articles, books, book chapters and conference abstracts.

In addition, he has been involved for 17 years in asylum seeker mental health. Prof Sundram is an expert consultant on asylum seeker and refugee mental health to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and has provided similar expert advice to the UN; UN Commission on Human Rights; Australian Human Rights Commission; Australian Department of Home Affairs; US State Department; the Governments of Papua New Guinea, Republic of Nauru, and Sri Lanka; and numerous non-government organisations (NGOs).

He has established pro bono health services for asylum seekers, most recently with Cabrini, the Cabrini Asylum Seeker and Refugee Health Hub, providing primary care and specialist mental health services in the state of Victoria.

Prof Sundram has presented as plenary and invited speaker at international and national conferences, served as deputy editor for the Asian Journal of Psychiatry, and is an advisor to the UN, national and state governments. He also serves on the executive committee of the World Psychiatric Association Section on Developing Countries.

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MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

Joanne Cleary, Seqirus

M 0428 816 751

E joanne.cleary@seqirus.com

Kirsten Bruce & Mel Kheradi, VIVA! Communications

M 0401 717 566 | 0421 551 257

E kirstenbruce@vivacommunications.com.au |
mel@vivacommunications.com.au