

# GENETIC COUNSELLOR AWARENESS DAY

PANEL DISCUSSION HOSTED 4TH NOVEMBER 1-2PM AEDT

## **The Only Constant in Genetic Counselling is Change: Learning from *TP53*, the 'Guardian of the Genome'**

This is an open invitation to join us for a Q&A session with our panel of aspiring and accomplished genetic counsellors, patient advocate and clinical geneticist.

Zoom link - <https://zoom.us/j/99782385266?pwd=dGRVU29xSFRLQW42TnRWTIBEVlFnUT09#success>

### **Do you have any questions for our panel?**

Submit your questions for our panel. Please email any questions by  
2nd November to [secretary@asgc.org.au](mailto:secretary@asgc.org.au)

**Dr Mandy Ballinger** is a Group Leader at the Garvan Institute of Medical Research and Head of Cohorts for Omico. Her clinical training includes a Masters in Genetic Counselling. She oversees a program of work focused on defining heritable cancer risk which includes the International Sarcoma Kindred Study, with over 3600 families enrolled internationally, and more recently the national Genetic Cancer Risk in the Young Study. Dr Ballinger was key to establishing SMOC+, the Australian whole body MRI study for individuals with multi-organ cancer prone syndromes. Her work in LFS has impacted clinical practice internationally. Dr Ballinger continues to use research cohorts as vehicles for intervention to impact on clinical practice and improve outcomes for individuals and their families.



**Samantha Arthur** is the branch Co- Chair for the Australia and New Zealand chapter of the LFSA (Li Fraumeni Syndrome Association). She was diagnosed with Li-Fraumeni syndrome in 2011, one of a large number of those living with LFS in her extended family. Samantha has 3 young sons, all living with LFS. Her passion is to share awareness and hope, and to help guide others to the resources available as they seek to find their own balance in living life with LFS.



**Sarah O'Sullivan** began her genetic counselling career in 2005, after completing postgrad studies at the University of Newcastle, NSW. She has worked at clinical genetics services in Sydney and Perth, in public and private clinics, worked in genetic research while living in the UK and did volunteer work at a familial cancer clinic while living in the US. She has been at Genetic Services of Western Australia for well over a decade and is currently a Senior Genetic Counsellor at GSWA's Familial Cancer Program. In recent years she has developed a keen interest in genetic paediatric oncology/haematology and, in addition to adult cancer genetic counselling, is working with colleagues to develop a dedicated "Genetic Paediatric Oncology/Haematology" clinic at Perth Children's Hospital.



**Dr Alex Henderson** has been working as a clinical geneticist in Wellington for the last 3 years. Prior to that, he had been a consultant for 10 years in Newcastle upon Tyne, in the UK, after training in clinical and cancer genetics. He is national lead for cancer genetics in NZ, and represents Genetics Health Service New Zealand at the Te Aho o Te Kahu, Cancer Control Agency. He sits on the Certification Committee of the Board of Censors for Genetic Counselling (HGSA).

**Hosted by** – Bhavya Vora splits his time working as a genetic counsellor in public health at Genetic Services of Western Australia and in private practice at "CancerGC.com.au". He has a Master of Medical Genetics and a Master of Genetic Counselling. In his journey from a rural town in the central west coast of India to this point in his career, Bhavya has had the privilege to work with and learn from various professionals in the field of genetics in India, Scotland, New Zealand and Australia.



**We look forward to seeing you there!**