

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Thomas Ashworth Melbourne 12<sup>th</sup> October 2015 CTC Symposium

In conjunction with the 7th EMT International Meeting: TEMTIA-VII 11-14<sup>th</sup> Oct 2015

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Thomas Ashworth CTC Symposium will be held this year at the Pullman Albert Park Hotel, Melbourne in conjunction with the 7<sup>th</sup> EMT International Association Meeting (TEMITA-VII). This year's Symposium theme will focus on the biology of CTCs, the advances in molecular analysis and how this research is being translated into improving cancer therapies through precision oncology. The meeting will explore the latest developments in CTC enumeration, single cell isolation and advances in molecular characterisation, including techniques for cellular, genomic and immunological analysis of CTCs. The diagnostic utility of ctDNA/ctRNA biomarkers will also be highlighted, with updates on studies in progress, including the prospects and current limitations of how these biomarkers can aid rational decision-making in cancer therapy.



## International Keynote speakers for 2015

**Professor Caroline Dive** Deputy Director, Cancer Research UK Manchester Institute

**Professor Jean Paul Thiery** Head, Dept. of Biochemistry, National University of Singapore

Having the CTC Symposium in conjunction with the EMT (Epithelial Mesenchymal Transition) International Association Meeting presents a unique synergy with the “*EMT bridging the gap between CTC biology and metastasis*” and is expected to stimulate new conceptual understanding and the exchange of ideas in these fields. A shared session is planned with the highlight being the Thomas Ashworth Oration presented by Professor Caroline Dive and the Keynote presentation by Jean Paul Thiery.

We are particularly fortunate to have Professor Dive here in Australia; Professor Dive is internationally renowned for advancing circulating tumour cell (CTC) research, with a focus on lung cancer and leads the world-class Clinical and Experimental Pharmacology group (>50 staff) at the Cancer Research UK Manchester Institute. She has integrated the molecular profiling of CTCs into clinical trials, enhanced sample analysis for multi-site trials and developed methods for CTC and ctDNA analysis from the same blood sample. Professor Dive has also developed unique xenotransplantation models using CTCs enriched from small cell lung cancer patients for therapy testing and understanding drug resistance mechanisms, a ground breaking development in this field.

The Symposium will bring together medical researchers and clinicians to advance the science and clinical utility of circulating tumour cell (CTC) and circulating tumour DNA research. This one-day symposium is a rare opportunity to foster growth of the Australian CTC research community and pays tribute to the Australian physician Thomas Ashworth who first described CTCs in 1869.

## Registration:

Registration for the Thomas Ashworth CTC Symposium will be via the EMT event organizer ([www.emtmeeting.org](http://www.emtmeeting.org))

## Contact:

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