## **Press Release**





# Translational Science Hub welcomes first appointments to chase the miracles of science

**Brisbane, 18 August:** Sanofi has today announced the first senior appointments of the Translational Science Hub to support the ground-breaking research underway in Queensland.

The Translational Science Hub links world-class researchers in Queensland with scientists at the Sanofi mRNA Centre of Excellence in France and in the United States to develop the next generation of immunisations. The Hub is a \$280 million partnership between Sanofi, The Queensland Government, The University of Queensland and Griffith University that is putting Queensland at the forefront of vaccine development and biomedical research in Australia.

The first Sanofi recruits to the Translational Science Hub (TSH) are Melanie Gentgall as Head of Clinical Operations. Melanie was previously the CEO and Company Secretary of PRAXIS Australia and has provided leadership over the last 25 years in the research, research ethics and clinical trials sectors in Australia. Most recently she has held director-level positions focused on clinical trials at the University of the Sunshine Coast and the South Australia Health and Medical Research Institute.

Jolien Reid has been appointed Deputy Head of Clinical Operations. Jolien joins with almost 15 years of experience in early and late phase vaccine R&D. She has previously worked at AstraZeneca where she was responsible for the establishment of Vaccines and Immune Therapies Clinical Operations.

Lorena Preciado-Llanes and Claudia Gonzalez have been appointed as Global Clinical Development Strategy Experts. Lorena recently moved to Australia after an extensive academic career in the UK as a clinical trial lead at both the University of Oxford and University of Surrey, in addition to post-doctoral research at the University of Liverpool and University of Sheffield.

Claudia joined Sanofi in 2019 as a clinical trails expert in Colombia before recently moving to Queensland. She brings with her industry experience and extensive clinical expertise in designing and executing observational and interventional studies.

Scott McNeil is now TSH Project Lead. Scott comes from CSIRO and has worked in academic research, government and business that includes time at the Australian Institute for Commercialisation.

Anna Arefyeva, has started as TSH Project Coordinator bringing with her leadership in operations and workflow processes.

sonofi 1/2

This team will be located at the Translational Research Institute (TRI) in Brisbane with offices also at Griffith University on the Gold Coast which will open soon.

### Hon. Steven Miles MP

Queensland Deputy Premier

"It is great to see these first appointments made, for the ground-breaking Translational Science Hub. For more than 25 years the Queensland Government has been investing in highly-skilled people and the very best infrastructure, to ensure we are manufacturing world-class biomedical products.

"The Palaszczuk Government's partnership with Sanofi is testament to that and I'm looking forward to building on this legacy and welcoming even more researchers, to further progress vaccine development and save more lives."

## **Dr Iris Depaz**

Country Medical Lead, Sanofi Australia and New Zealand

"I'm delighted to welcome this team to the Translational Science Hub. These global positions, located in Queensland, are part of our desire to give opportunities to scientists and researchers located here so talent remains in Australia. I'm particularly pleased to see female talent filling our senior roles which reflects Sanofi's ambition to ensure women and men are represented equally among our senior leaders."

Sanofi operates 20 research and development sites around the world exploring new medicines and vaccines. This includes translational science, where researchers work to translate early observations in the laboratory into clinical results that directly benefit people.

#### About Sanofi

We are an innovative global healthcare company, driven by one purpose: we chase the miracles of science to improve people's lives. Our team, across some 100 countries, is dedicated to transforming the practice of medicine by working to turn the impossible into the possible. We provide potentially life-changing treatment options and life-saving vaccine protection to millions of people globally, while putting sustainability and social responsibility at the centre of our ambitions.

Sanofi is listed on EURONEXT: SAN and NASDAQ: SNY

#### **Contacts**

**Ben Seal** | + 61 (0)422 003 068 | <u>ben.seal@sanofi.com</u>

sanofi 2/2