

cordially invites you to attend our 5th annual

HDA Oration

Professor Eric Haan AO

Head, South Australian Clinical Genetics Service

Women's and Children's Hospital

&

Clinical Affiliate Professor

Discipline of Paediatrics, University of Adelaide



'Genetics and Disease in Children'

Thursday 11 June 2009

5.30 - 7.00pm

Arrival at 5.15pm for 5.30pm start, Cocktail Food & Drinks following Oration

State Library of South Australia

Institute Building Lecture Theatre

(Corner Kintore Avenue and North Terrace)

*Professor Haan will be presented with the
Healthy Development Adelaide Award for 2009*

RSVPs essential by Friday 5 June

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Professor Eric Haan AO

Professor Haan is Head of the South Australian Clinical Genetics Service, a unit of SA Pathology based at Women's and Children's Hospital, and a Clinical Affiliate Professor in the Discipline of Paediatrics, University of Adelaide. He spends most of his professional time providing individuals and families with genetic diagnosis, counselling and testing. Academic interests include the genetics of intellectual disability, ethical issues associated with genetic testing, the causes and prevention of birth defects and cerebral palsy, and the development and ethical use of genetic health services. He has been a member of several national committees addressing issues related to genetics and is a past President of the Human Genetics Society of Australasia and the International Federation of Human Genetics Societies.

Oration Overview

A newborn baby has both a genetic past and a genetic future. The genetic past comprises the sequences of genes inherited from parents and the effect on those genes of both genetic and environmental factors during the child's development from conception. The fact that environment plays a part raises the possibility of modifying prenatal environment for the better. In a similar way, the child's genetic future will be influenced by how the genome interacts with its environment. To what extent can we know what the future holds for a child's health by knowing its DNA sequence and the modifications to DNA and gene expression that have occurred during prenatal and postnatal development? Do we really want to know what the future may bring and if so, why? Can anything be done to improve an individual child's health by knowing and to what extent can such information be used on a population basis to improve population health. These and related issues will be discussed.

This event supported by

