

Professor Jozef Gécz, PhD

Laboratory Head, Neurogenetics Research Program, SA Pathology and The University of Adelaide (located at the Women's and Children's Hospital).

Jozef Gécz is a NH&MRC Principal Research Fellow and Professor of Human Genetics at the University of Adelaide. In 2001 he established, and currently heads the Neurogenetics laboratory within the Department of Genetics and Molecular Pathology, SA Pathology.

His main interests are in the identification and characterisation of genes involved in intellectual disability and epilepsy in particular and as such understanding the molecular basis of learning, memory and cognition. His group identified or was involved in the identification and characterisation of more than 36 genes implicated in various intellectual disabilities and epilepsies.

Professor's Gecz research is currently funded by an NHMRC Program grant, 2011-2015.

Current project areas include:

- Application of massive parallel sequencing in epilepsy and intellectual disability disease gene discovery (with Dr. Corbett and Mrs. Gardner);
- Functional studies of various genes, e.g. the ARX homeobox gene (with Dr. C. Shoubridge); the PHF6 gene (with Dr. Corbett); and the UPF3B gene (with Dr. L. Jolly);
- Understanding of the molecular mechanism of epilepsy and intellectual disability limited to females (EFMR; with A/Prof. P Thomas);
- Functional study of the human and mouse PHF6 genes, implicated in an intellectual disability syndrome (BFSL; when germline inactivated) as well as cancer (T-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia, T-ALL; when somatically inactivated). Mouse knockout model is available (with Dr. Corbett and Dr. Voss and Thomas from WEHI, Melbourne).

Prof. Gecz studied human molecular genetics in Czechoslovakia at the Comenius University in Bratislava from 1981-1986. He completed his PhD at the Slovak Academy of Sciences in 1991. His first post-doctoral study, supported by an INSERM fellowship was in Marseille, France within Prof. Michel Fontes. He joined the Department of Genetics and Molecular Pathology (former Department of Cytogenetics and Molecular Genetics), SA Pathology in June 1994. Prof Gecz is an author or a co-author on more than 160 peer reviewed publications

Phone (08) 8161 6339

E-mail jozef.gecz@adelaide.edu.au

[Back to Neurogenetics Research Program Homepage](#)