

**VITRIFICATION HANDS-ON WORKSHOP**  
**21 January – 22 January 2008**

EDUCATION PROGRAM IN REPRODUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT LABORATORIES  
MONASH INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL RESEARCH, MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

**Monday 21 January 2008**

**Lecture series, demonstrations and hands-on practicals**

- 9:00 – 9:15            *REGISTRATION*
- 9:15 – 9:20            Introductory welcome from EPRD director,  
*Professor Peter Temple-Smith (EPRD)*
- 9:20 – 9.40            Development of the vitrification technique and its global use in  
human and animal gamete, embryo and stem-cell preservation  
*Dr Sally Catt (EPRD)*
- 9.40 -10.00            The Sydney IVF experience: Making the transition from slow  
cooling to vitrification across all clinics; research to reality.  
*Sally Costigan (Sydney IVF)*
- 10.00 – 10.20            The Monash IVF experience: Recent clinical frozen embryo  
transfer data from the past 2 years comparing slow cooling and  
vitrification  
*Dr Jim Catt (Monash IVF)*
- 10.30 – 10.45            *COFFEE*
- 10.45 – 11.05            Theory of vitrification and slow cool freezing; the important  
differences  
*Dr Jill Shaw (Melbourne University)*
- 11.05 -11.30            Video and demonstration of the CVM system; avoiding direct  
contact with liquid nitrogen.  
*Dr Anna Skroce (Cryologic)*
- 11.30 – 12.30            *Simultaneous workshops, split into smaller groups.*
- “Show and Tell” Round-Table discussion on commercial media  
and devices available for clinical vitrification, what’s important?  
*Dr Mulyoto Pangestu & Sally Costigan (EPRD)*

Preparation of 'home-made' media for vitrification  
*Dr Sally Catt*

12:30-13:30

*LUNCH*

13.30 – 17.30

Demonstration of vitrification of mouse embryos, followed by one on one tuition of the vitrifying and warming processes to all participants

**Tuesday 22 January 2008**  
**Hands on practicals**

9:00 – 12.00

All participants assess vitrified warmed embryos from previous day. Cleavage and blastocyst stage mouse embryos available to vitrify under close supervision. Vitrified ovine oocytes available to warm, assess and revitrify under close supervision.

12.00 – 13.30

*LUNCH AND PRODUCT TALKS (TBC)*

Storage in liquid nitrogen vapour, the way forward?

*Mark McKechnie (MVE/Chart):*

Improved labeling of cryo straws

*Simon Kent, Gytec/Brady:*

Commercial vitrification media

*Sonia O'Brien, Cook*

13:30-16:00

Hands-on skilling continues in areas of need. Material will be available for vitrifying and warming in this session.

16.00-16-30

*GROUP QUESTION TIME and CLOSING REMARKS*