



Garvan Institute of Medical Research

## Leaders in Science & Society



# Professor Alain Fischer

Hospital Necker (Paris)

**“A reductionist view of T cell immunology based on the study of primary immunodeficiencies”**

**Tuesday 28 July 2015 11:30AM, AUDITORIUM**

**HOST: A/PROF STUART TANGYE**

Dr Alain Fischer studied medicine, with a specialization in pediatrics, biochemistry, and pediatric immunology at the Université Paris Jussieu, where he received his medical and doctoral degrees in the same year. After completing a postdoctoral fellowship at the University College London, he started independent research in a unit of the National Health Institute of Medical Research (INSERM) at the Necker Hospital in Paris. From 1991 to 2013, he was the director of an INSERM unit for “normal and pathological development of the immune system.” Since 2009, he is the director of the Institute for Genetic Diseases (Imagine) at Necker University Hospital. Dr Fischer also serves as a professor of pediatric immunology at the Université Paris Descartes and as a professor at the Institut Universitaire de France. From 1996 to 2012, he served as the director of the pediatric immunology department at the Necker Hospital.

Dr Fischer's main research interests are in gene therapy, genetics of immunological disorders, primary immunodeficiency diseases, and the development of the lymphoid system. Over the last 20 years, he and his colleagues have analyzed the mechanisms of hereditary diseases of the immune system. In 2008, Dr Fischer received the INSERM “Grand Prix” for his career achievements. Dr Fischer has also been the recipient of the Halpern Prize in 1984, the Behring-Metchnikoff Prize in 1992, the Prix du Comité du Rayonnement français in 1994, the Jung Prize for Medicine in 1998, the Louis Jeantet Prize for Medicine in 2001, and the Japan Prize in 2015 in the field of Medical and Medicinal Science for the “proposal of the concept of gene therapy and its clinical applications.” Since 2002, Dr Fischer has been a member of the French Academy of Science and the European Molecular Biology Organization. He has been a member of the French National Ethical Committee and director of the French Program for Rare Disease Research. Dr Fischer is the author of more than 600 scientific papers. He is an editor of the European Journal of Immunology, International Immunology, the EMBO Journal, Clinical and Experimental Immunology, the Annual Review of Immunology, and Science.