

**Samuel F. Berkovic AC, MD, FAA, FRACP, FAHMS, FRS**

Sam Berkovic is Laureate Professor in the Department of Medicine, University of Melbourne, and Director of the Epilepsy Research Centre at Austin Health. He is a clinical neurologist and clinical researcher with a special interest in establishing close research links with basic scientists. His group, together with molecular genetic collaborators in Adelaide and Germany, discovered the first gene for epilepsy in 1995 and subsequently have been involved the discovery of many of the known epilepsy genes. This has changed the conceptualisation of the causes of epilepsy and is having a major impact on epilepsy research, and on strategies for diagnosis and development of new treatments. He currently is a leader in international consortia aiming at identifying rare and common variants in the common forms of epilepsy. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 2007, a Companion of the Order of Australia in 2014 and a Member of the National Academy of Medicine in 2017.