



AbbVie ANZ Appoints New Medical Director

AUSTRALIA, SYDNEY, June 20 2019– AbbVie (NYSE: ABBV), a research-based global biopharmaceutical company, today announced the appointment of Dr Alan Watts to the position of Medical Director for Australia and New Zealand.

Alan will commence in the role from the 1st July and fills the position that was vacant following the departure of the previous incumbent Dr Carla Swemmer.

“I am delighted to lead the AbbVie medical functions in Australia and New Zealand. I am looking forward to driving our research and highly innovative approaches to education, our commitment to patient safety, as well as continuing to build an inclusive and collaborative culture. I have also felt that at AbbVie we have established ourselves as one of the leaders in ethical standards in the industry, and it’s something we all feel very proud of.” Alan said.

Alan Watts has had a long and successful career at AbbVie beginning at Abbott in 2009. His biomedical career spans 25 years, with experience in the fields of science, business and technology. Alan has an Honours degree in Science, for which he majored in Chemistry and Genetics, and he completed his Doctorate in Molecular Immunology in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Sydney.

Prior to AbbVie, Alan’s career has included stints as a post-doctoral scientist at the Weizmann Institute, Israel, as Scientific Director of a publicly-listed biotechnology company, and in pharmaceutical company Merck Sharpe and Dohme. Additionally, Alan has experience in business development/early stage commercialisation in technology-based start-up companies.

“Alan has been an outstanding contributor to AbbVie and a terrific example of AbbVie’s development and succession planning.” Kirsten O’Doherty AbbVie ANZ General Manager said.

Alan is a strong advocate for patients and is board member and chair of the Scientific Grant Review Committee of the muscular dystrophy-focussed (FSHD) Global Research Foundation, the second largest funder of medical research into Facioscapulohumeral Dystrophy outside the US National Institutes of Health.



About AbbVie in Australia

AbbVie is a global, research-driven biopharmaceutical company committed to developing innovative advanced therapies for some of the world's most complex and critical conditions. The company's mission is to use its expertise, dedicated people and unique approach to innovation to markedly improve treatments across four primary therapeutic areas: immunology, oncology, virology and neuroscience.

Our heritage in Australia reaches back more than 80 years and we employ more than 280 people with our therapies currently benefiting more than 32,000 Australians. For more information about AbbVie, please visit us at www.abbvie.com.au or follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) or [LinkedIn](#).

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