James Shaw is an interventional cardiologist who established the vascular medicine division within the cardiology department of the Alfred hospital/Baker IDI.

Research Brief

The group’s research interests include helping to understand how HDL elevation may play a cardioprotective role, the role of platelets in atherosclerosis and clinical studies looking at whether non cardiac medications attenuate the anti platelet effects of clopiodgrel. The current work is focused determining whether Vitamin D levels are associated with the extent of coronary and peripheral vascular disease and mechanistic studies to determine whether vitamin D does have beneficial effects on surrogate markers of cardiovascular health. Dr Shaw is also involved in the multi centre interventional cardiology registry Melbourne Interventional Group. Finally he is the PI for the Alfred hospital for various Industry sponsored drug trials in acute coronary syndrome patients.

Selected Publications


- James A. Shaw, Alex Bobik, Andrew Murphy, Peter Kanelis, Peter Blombery, Nigora Mukhamedova, Kevin Woollard, Stuart Lyon, Dmitri Sviridov, Anthony M. Dart Infusion of Reconstituted High Density Lipoprotein Leads to Acute Changes in Human
Infusion of r HDL reduces Lipid in Human Atherosclerotic Plaque

Atherosclerotic plaque was excised from the superficial femoral arteries of patients with claudication 5-7 days after infusions of either r HDL or placebo. Significant reduction in lipid content in plaque was seen in the r hdl group.

Impact of Infusion of r HDL on VCAM +ve Cells as seen in Human Atherosclerotic Plaque

Changes were also seen in the plaque with significant reduction in VCAM +ve cells in those who received r HDL. Details of study discussed in above graph. Shaw et al Circ Res 2008 Nov 7;103(10):1084-91

Role of HDL in Platelet Production

Our group collaborated with Andrew Murphy during his time at Columbia where he was investigating the role of HDL in platelet production. Data from our study helped confirm his results seen in animal models and as shown here HDL infusions resulted in a reduction in platelet levels no such change was seen in the placebo group. Murphy et al Nat Med. 2013 May;19(5):586-94.