Speaker: Dr Kandice Varcin (Telethon Kids Institute)
Title: Autism spectrum disorder in the earliest years of life: New approaches to identification and intervention
Where: Kim Beazley Lecture Theatre (351.1.001)
Host: Dr Urte Roeber (u.roeber@murdoch.edu.au)

SPESReSs Coordinator: Dr Robert O'Shea (r.oshea@murdoch.edu.au)

Abstract:
Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a heterogeneous neurodevelopmental disorder that typically unfolds over the earliest years of life. Many children, however, will not receive a diagnosis until much later in their development. Given increasing evidence for the efficacy of early intervention in autism, there is a need to identify very early markers of atypical development to facilitate earlier intervention for infants at-risk. In this talk, I will provide an overview of our work that aims to discover early brain- and behavioural markers of ASD, prior to diagnostic age. I will also discuss a new paradigm of very early intervention currently being trialled by our team for infants presenting with early developmental delays.

Biography:
Dr Kandice Varcin is a research fellow with the Autism Research Team at Telethon Kids Institute. Kandice earned a Master of Psychology (Clinical) and a PhD from the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia. After completing her PhD she undertook postdoctoral research training at Harvard Medical School and Boston Children's Hospital investigating early behavioural and neural markers of atypical development in infancy, especially autism spectrum disorder. In July 2016, Kandice joined the Autism Research Team at Telethon Kids Institute to continue her work in early identification and intervention for infants at-risk or neurodevelopmental disorders. Her work predominately incorporates electroencephalographic (EEG) and behavioural techniques to study development across the first three years of life. Kandice is a registered psychologist and a qualified Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule-2 trainer.

Meeting the presenter:
To arrange a meeting with the presenter, please contact the host.

Reading for the keen:

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