PROGRAM

*Innovation is creativity with a job to do,* said John Emmerling. Medicine has always been, and continues to be, faced with many jobs to do. At the same time, current and developing medical innovations require attention to the laws which underpin modern societies and evaluate the extent to which they remain relevant while at the same time creating an environment which facilitates creativity and enables responsible innovation to occur.

The following three topical aspects of the theme “Innovation” will be addressed in presentations by a panel of speakers, for discussion with the audience at the 2015 Slater and Gordon Medical Law Forum, hosted by the Australian Centre for Health Law Research.

1. **Innovations in our pockets.** The rise of smartphone medical applications and in particular the new *GoodSAM* app. The tool will dial emergency services but at the same time will alert nearby persons with first aid skills, who may be able to attend and provide assistance more quickly. Resultant medico legal issues will be discussed, such as the liability of the app provider, the ethical / conduct obligations on those registered to attend, the Good Samaritan statutory protections and the potential insurance implications.

2. **The law’s constraints on innovation,** considered against the background of the *Medical Innovation Bill* (UK) which has been promoted by Lord Saatchi as a means of avoiding what he has described as *‘the endless repetition of a failed experiment’* against the *‘voice of complacency and self-satisfaction’*. The debate about the need for, and potential medico legal implications of, the Bill will be considered, as will the relevance of this debate to the Australian context.

3. **Innovative services: the stem cell industry,** and in particular current regulations and consumer protections. There are over 200 registered clinical trials currently underway around the world investigating the role that stem cells may play in the various systems of the human body. And there are of course providers who do not form part of such trials. This session will consider current and emerging medico legal issues relating to the stem cell industry, with a focus on patient safety issues, including the adequacy of present regulation and the role of doctors involved in the provision of stem cell treatments.
Chairs: Ms Olamide Kowalik, Slater and Gordon Lawyers
Ms Tracey Carver, Queensland University of Technology

2:00pm Welcoming remarks
Professor Lindy Willmott & Professor Ben White; Directors, Australian Centre for Health Law Research, Queensland University of Technology

2:10 pm Innovative tools: The GoodSAM app
Ms Ebony Birchall, Slater and Gordon Lawyers
Ms Kathryn Philip, TressCox Lawyers

2:40 pm Innovations constrained by the law: The Saatchi Bill
Associate Professor Tina Cockburn, Queensland University of Technology
Mr Harry McCay, Avant Mutual Group

3:10 pm Afternoon tea

3:40 pm Innovative services and current regulation and consumer protections

The stem cell industry

Dr Alison McLean, St Vincent’s Hospital Sydney
Ms Nicola Stepanov, University of Queensland
Dr Mike Doran, Translational Research Institute, Princess Alexandra Hospital

4:20 pm Open discussion

4:50 pm Closing remarks
Ms Tracey Carver, Queensland University of Technology

5:00 pm Drinks & Canapés

6:00 pm Close

To request or to accept an invitation please email Jessica.Hilder@SlaterGordon.com.au