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Professor Garland is a clinical microbiologist and sexual health physician, with a particular interest and experience in infectious diseases as they pertain to reproductive and neonatal health. With her team, Professor Garland has been a leader of the research effort into the development of patient self-collected genital sampling and the detection of reproductive tract infections, particularly those sexually transmitted, such as *Chlamydia trachomatis*, *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, *Trichomonas vaginalis* and herpes simplex virus, by molecular techniques such as polymerase chain reaction (PCR). She has published extensively on the clinical epidemiology of sexually transmitted infections in Australia. Professor Garland has made over 250 publications in peer-reviewed journals as well as giving keynote and plenary presentations at over 200 national and international meetings.

A focal point of Professor Garland's research interests is cervical cancer and the role of the human papillomaviruses (HPV). Professor Garland has been involved in defining HPV in cervical dysplasia, cervical cancer, and the healthy population within Australia, as well as being Chief Investigator defining the prevalence of HPV genotypes in urban, rural, indigenous and non-indigenous Australian women. She is currently Chief Investigator of two 4-year follow-up clinical trials of prophylactic HPV vaccines in young women. Professor Garland is also an Advisor to the World Health Organisation (WHO), focusing on the area of sexually transmitted infection diagnosis as well as on the prophylactic HPV vaccines, with an emphasis of looking at international standards for HPV DNA assays. Additionally, Professor Garland's Royal Women's Hospital team was recently acknowledged as a reference laboratory for HPV testing by WHO and is now part of the "HPV Labnet" for the Asia Oceania region.

Professor Garland is the inaugural President of the newly formed society, AOGIN (Asian-Oceania research organization on Genital Infection and Neoplasia). AOGIN aims to reduce the burden of disease from reproductive tract infections (especially HPV), in the Asia Oceania Pacific region. The society endeavours to work with governments, NGOs, learned societies and the public to promote and develop research, training, screening, prevention and the dissemination of information relevant to genital infections, pre-cancers and cancers in women, at an Asia-Oceania-Pacific level. Moreover, AOGIN has developed an expert multidisciplinary group, consisting of gynaecologists, sexual health physicians, dermatologists, pathologists, molecular biologists, oncologists and basic scientists, with representatives from throughout the region.

AOGIN (Asia Oceania research organisation on Genital Infections & Neoplasia)
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