

Craig Ritchie ,Senior Lecturer, Edinburgh University

Prof Ritchie is the Professor of the Psychiatry of Ageing at the University of Edinburgh. This new chair sits within the Centre for Clinical Brain Sciences. He also holds a Visiting Professorship at Imperial College London where he had worked until October 2014 before his move to Edinburgh. Until October 2014 he was also R&D Director at West London Mental Health Trust. He is a leading authority on Clinical Trials in Dementia and has been senior investigator on over 35 drug trials of both disease modifying and symptomatic agents for that condition. This emerged from his ongoing clinical leadership of the MPAC (Metal Protein Attenuating Compound) pipeline for Prana Biotechnology dating back to 1998 when he worked as a Senior Visiting Research Fellow at the Mental Health Research Institute in Victoria, Australia. He has published over 150 peer reviewed articles, abstracts and book chapters and sits on several advisory boards for major pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies as well as The Wellcome Trust and the Public Health Steering Group for the Alzheimer's Society. He is also one of the leading editors in the Cochrane Collaboration's Dementia Group with a particular specialism in Diagnostic Test Accuracy reviews and is Assistant Editor for the journal International Psychogeriatrics. He is leading the PREVENT project; a major initiative nationally which will identify mid-life risks for later life dementia and characterize early changes of neurodegenerative disease through imaging, genetic, cognitive and biomarker analyses. He also leads the IMI-funded European Prevention of Alzheimer's Dementia (EPAD) Programme which is a €60M project to develop the platform to run a standing, adaptive proof of concept trial for the secondary prevention of Alzheimer's dementia. EPAD will be closely aligned to the Global Alzheimer's Platform (GAP) which emerged from the New York Academy of Sciences (NYAS) and Chief Executive Officers Initiative (CEOi) to prevent Alzheimer's Dementia.