The sins of the fathers
A new paradigm in the etiology of asthma and allergy

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Could your grandchildren be at risk of adverse health outcomes if you smoke even if your children or grandchildren themselves do not smoke? This seminar will present RHINESSA, an international project dedicated to studying trans-generational etiological factors in allergy and asthma. A key finding of this work is that fathers’ (but not mothers’) exposure to welding and smoking during puberty increases asthma in the offspring, which suggests exposures in young men program the health of their offspring born many years later. In addition, Swedish registry data on the effects of grandparental smoking on the offspring will be presented.

Prof Shyamali Dharmage is the Head of the Allergy and Lung Health Unit and supported by a NHMRC Senior Research Fellowship. She is the Melbourne PI of the RHINESSA, an international trans-generational study.

Dr Caroline Lodge is a research fellow within the Allergy and Lung Health Unit supported by two NHMRC CRE postdoctoral fellowships. She is currently collaborating with the University of Umeå on a trans-generational project and recently spent two weeks in Sweden analysing the Swedish registry data.

Wednesday 15 October 2014
12.30 - 1.30 pm, Seminar Room 515
Melbourne School of Population and Global Health
Level 5, 207 Bouverie Street, Carlton

ALL WELCOME