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Professor Rasko is a Haematologist who directs Cell and Molecular Therapies at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and heads the Gene and Stem Cell Therapy Program at the Centenary Institute, University of Sydney. His was the first formal appointment in clinical gene therapy in Australia.

Professor Rasko is a past President of the Australasian Gene Therapy Society, on the International Committee of the American Society of Gene Therapy and Vice President of the International Society for Cell Therapy. He is a member of the editorial boards of *Pathology* and *The Journal of Gene Medicine*. He serves on Hospital, Sydney University Medical Faculty, philanthropic, state and national bodies including Chair of the Gene Technology Technical Advisory Committee of the federal Office of the Gene Technology Regulator.

Professor Rasko has a productive track record in gene therapy, experimental haematology and cell biology. His research has been successful in uncovering new mechanisms of leukemia, understanding blood hormones and their mechanisms of action, and clinical trials of new biological therapies for cancer and bleeding disorders. He has authored approximately 100 publications including a book published by Cambridge University Press on the ethics of inheritable genetic modification. In landmark papers in *Nature Medicine* in 2006 and 2007, with collaborators in the USA he reported the short-term clinical success and immunology of AAV-mediated liver-directed gene therapy for the treatment of haemophilia.