



Institute of  
Cellular Medicine

## PI Seminar Series

**Speaker:** Dr Catherine Adamson, University of St Andrew  
**Venue:** Baddiley Clark Seminar Room  
**Date:** Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2018  
**Time:** 1.00 – 2.00pm

**Dr Catherine Adamson will present:**

***“Modular cell-based platform for high-throughput identification of compounds that inhibit a viral interferon antagonist of choice”***

### **Biography**

Dr Catherine Adamson is a Lecturer in Molecular Medicine at the University of St Andrews. Catherine's lab focuses on virology with a specific interest in antiviral compounds, which can be used to combat important viral diseases that cause medical and economic burdens and as valuable chemical tools to address basic research questions in virology. Prior to her current position at St Andrews, Catherine worked as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow with Dr Eric Freed within the US NIH HIV Drug Resistance Program. During this time she performed internationally recognized work on a novel class of HIV-1 maturation inhibitors and made significant contributions to understanding the drugs mechanism of action, acquisition of drug resistance and performance in phase II clinical trials. She has successfully continued HIV-1 maturation inhibitor research as an independent PI at St Andrews, using a chemistry-based approach to understand maturation inhibitor structure-activity relationships. Over the last several years, Catherine has led research that successfully developed a modular cell-based platform for high-throughput identification of compounds that inhibit a viral interferon antagonist of choice. This work will be the focus of Catherine's talk at Newcastle. She will tell you the journey of assay development and how the assay platform has been successfully used to target two viral IFN antagonists; NS2 from Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) and IE1 from Cytomegalovirus. The project resulted in the identification of novel compounds that exhibit antiviral activity against RSV and CMV. Finally she will talk about new viral IFN antagonist targets that her lab is currently pursuing.

**Chair: Dr Christopher Duncan**