

Emeritus Professor Robert Atkins AM

Professor Emeritus Robert Atkins, AM, MBBS, MSc, DSc, FRACP is one of Australia's most eminent nephrologists. He was Director of the Department of Nephrology at Monash Medical Centre from its inception in 1972 until 2005. He then headed the Kidney Disease Prevention Unit in the School of Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine at Monash University in Melbourne.

Professor Atkins has worked internationally at the highest level of the profession. He was President of the International Society of Nephrology from 2001-2003. He was President of the Australian & New Zealand Society of Nephrology (1980-81), President of the Asia Pacific Society of Nephrology (1995-97) and a Councillor of the International Society of Peritoneal Dialysis.

Professor Atkins was a founding editor of "Nephrology" and has served on the editorial boards of a wide range of prestigious journals. He has co-edited four books and has had around 500 papers published in refereed journals and some 600 abstracts presented at international scientific meetings and been an invited speaker at over 40 international medical congresses. Professor Atkins has extensive experience throughout the field of nephrology and his research has spanned many areas including the epidemiology, progression and prevention of chronic kidney disease, diabetic nephropathy, peritoneal and haemodialysis and transplantation. However, his research's major concentration has been in the immune aspects of kidney disease, particularly the role of the macrophage.

Professor Atkins' work has been widely recognised. He won the inaugural Priscilla Kincaid-Smith Award of the Australian Kidney Foundation and Medal for Excellence in Kidney Research (1994). He was awarded The Oshima Medal of the Asia Pacific Society of Nephrology in 2008 and the Barry. M. Brenner Lectureship of the American Society of Nephrology in 2008. Professor Atkins' contributions were recognised with a Centenary Medal for Australia in 2003 and he also received the Order of Australia (AM) in 2003.



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