



# CFBD Seminar Series

Wednesday, 27 October 2021, 10:00 – 11:00 AM AEDT,  
[Zoom](#)

## A Biophysics Perspective Towards Undruggable Protein Targets



Dr Pooja Sharma is a Research and Discovery Scientist at Amgen Inc., Thousand Oaks, California. She joined Amgen's Discovery Attribute Sciences Team in 2017 to investigate biological impacts of small drug molecules or biologics in various early discovery projects. She is a subject matter expert in Biophysics and Structures area with extensive support of drug candidate development from DNA Encoded Library or High-Throughput Screens, Fragments or Hetero-bifunctional small molecules discovery in Amgen's innovative lead discovery pipeline. Additionally, she has played a key role to characterise various membrane protein therapeutic targets by developing advanced methodologies to study bio-molecular interactions of biologics in native like environments.

Pooja received her PhD in Biochemistry and Structure Biology at MIPS, Monash University, Australia, with Professor Martin Scanlon where she gained expertise in techniques of Fragment based drug discovery (FBDD) and investigated bacterial Virulence proteins as drug targets. She later joined Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, Structure Biology division as a leading research officer for FBDD Initiative in collaboration with Catalyst Therapeutics. Dr Sharma was awarded an industry-postdoc fellowship by NMX solutions and Harvard Medical School to develop novel NMR methods to elucidate drug molecule and target mechanisms. She extensively investigated oncogenic translation factors with various biophysics tools at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, USA. Overall research outcomes culminated in Dr Sharma co-inventing and authoring numerous patents and innovative papers, invited talks, and establishing several early discovery projects by solving multiple target-fragment complexes or mechanism guiding lead series SAR.