



Dr. Katharine Dibb, PhD
(Manchester, UK)

Katharine Dibb is a Senior Lecturer in Cardiovascular Sciences at the University of Manchester, UK. She received a Stepping Stone Fellowship from the University of Manchester to investigate cellular and molecular substrates for arrhythmias in ageing and was then awarded a British Heart Foundation Intermediate Research Fellowship to investigate the structure and function of the atria of the heart in ageing and atrial fibrillation.

Her research team continues to focus on Ca^{2+} handling in the atria of the heart. The overall aim is to understand why arrhythmias occur with ageing and during heart failure as well as determining potential routes for recovery. The work of her team explores the clinical problem at the in-vivo level, and then establishes underlying mechanisms by determining how structural and functional changes occur at the cellular and molecular level using techniques such as electrophysiology and confocal or super resolution imaging. They have characterised the role of transverse (t)-tubules in normal atrial myocytes and how t-tubule loss underlies atrial dysfunction in heart failure. Current work shows restoration of t-tubules restores function and thus research is now focused on identifying pathways responsible.