



**Dr Rod Mitchell, Wellcome Trust Clinical Fellow and  
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Rod is currently running a research group in the MRC Centre for Reproductive Health in Edinburgh. His research group is investigating the development of germ cells in the testis in relation to future fertility and the origins of testicular cancer. The aims are to identify what defines the germ cell niche in the human fetal testis. It will also determine how alteration of the niche by genetic, environmental or other factors could affect germ cell differentiation, which may result in subsequent effects on future fertility or the development of testicular cancer in adulthood. Rod combines his Wellcome Trust funded research programme with clinical duties as a Consultant Paediatric Endocrinologist at the Hospital for Sick Children in Edinburgh.