So my name is Julia Dorin and I work at the MRC Human Genetics Unit at the Institute of Genetics and Molecular Medicine. So, my interest is in innate immunity and how this rapid and powerful arm of the immune system can protect healthy people from all the microbes that are present in the environment, everywhere, every day, all around us. So if you get a bacterial infection you will take an antibiotic, like penicillin, but we have our own antibiotics produced at surfaces that are exposed to the environment – like the airways and the skin, the eyes, reproductive tract. So my particular interest at the moment is on a family of these antibiotics called defensins. Now these are very strong antibiotics that can kill, not only common bacteria, but also multi-resistant types like MRSA. Now we have found that these defensins have alternate function. Not only do they bolster the immune system, but after the danger has passed they can suppress it, and this anti-inflammatory activity is particularly interesting because in chronic diseases, like diabetes particularly and rheumatoid arthritis, the tissue damage caused by an over-reactive immune system can be very damaging. Now we believe a deeper understanding of the innate immune system will lead to novel therapies for disease.