

Who are the women involved in STEM?

“ When I grew up I knew I wanted to be

I have wanted to be a scientist since I was 13. I have loved science since then and I love it more now. Learning and thinking are part of my job; it doesn't get better than that.

Professional

Top-level responsibilities

Overseeing a biomedical research program.

Day-to-day work and skills

I lead a team of researchers and we work on developing new treatments for brain injuries and other conditions affected by blood clots.

Mentoring PhD students.

Personal

Current location and community

Melbourne, Victoria

My interests and hobbies

Experimental baking (I rarely bake the same thing twice) and photographing sunsets.

I love yoga; it rules my world and my kids know not to disturb me when I'm practising!

I am passionate about

Mentoring and leadership. Each person I mentor is naturally different, and mentoring to create a positive impact teaches me a lot about humanity. Being a good leader is the most important aspect of my research career.

What I would say to 16-year-old me

Never settle for mediocrity. Be the best you can be at everything you do.



Maithili Sashindranath

Deputy Group Leader

Australian Centre for Blood Diseases, Monash University

I was born and schooled in India. When I was in grade 12, my family moved to Botswana.

I moved out of home at 16 to attend university in South Africa- a country I had never previously visited!

After my BSc Hons, I moved continents again! I did a PhD at the University of Melbourne, supported by three scholarships.

Following my graduation, I moved to Monash University as a Research Fellow and am now Deputy Group Leader.

In 2021 I was one of 12 in the country elected to be an Australian Academy of Science EMCR Executive member.

In the future I will continue to learn. Research is all about learning!