

AIDA2025 CONFERENCE

Evoking Sovereignty, Honouring Country, Nurturing Community.

ICC Sydney • 27-29 November 2025
Gadigal Country



AIDA

AUSTRALIAN INDIGENOUS
DOCTORS' ASSOCIATION

Welcome to the AIDA 2025 Conference

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge and pay our respects to the Gadigal People, the traditional custodians whose lands we will gather on. We acknowledge and respect the Gadigal People's cultural, spiritual, physical and emotional connection with their land, waters and community. We pay respect to elders both past and present. We extend that respect to other First Nations People and their lands across Australia.

2025 CONFERENCE WORKING GROUP



Dr Jean Pepperill
Committee Chair



Dr Olivia O'Donoghue
AIDA Acting President



Dr Alicia Veasey
AIDA Board Director



Mr Brodie Seymour
AIDA Board Student Director



Dr Ella Ceolin
AIDA Member



Jennifer Gulson
AIDA Student Member



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Message from the Acting CEO

DR JONATHAN NEWCHURCH, ACTING CEO

Welcome to the Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association's 2025 Conference.

Our annual conference marks a significant milestone in our journey as we gather each year to celebrate the achievements of our Indigenous doctors who have dedicated their lives to the service of our People and the advancement of healthcare for all. We hold tens of thousands of years of health knowledge, we have a rightful and deserved place in the healthcare system, we are the drivers of self-determination and health equity.

This years' program is formed around the theme Evoking Sovereignty, Honouring Country, Nurturing Community, designed to provoke thought, inspire action, and foster collaboration – all with the ultimate goal of improving the health and well-being of our communities and one another as the professionals at the helm of Indigenous healthcare.

Our conference serves as a platform for fostering collaboration, sharing knowledge, and empowering future generations of Indigenous doctors to continue making a profound impact on Indigenous healthcare in our nation.

I wish you an enjoyable and collaborative experience at the AIDA 2025 Conference – welcome to Gadigal Country!



Contact the Organisers

To ensure the event is a success, the teams from Spinifex and AIDA are here to help – send us an email or visit us at the registration desk!

Contact the organisers at Spinifex Events:

AIDA@spinifexevents.com

Contact the event team at AIDA:

conference@aida.org.au

Photographs, Videos, and Recording of Sessions

Delegates are not permitted to use any type of camera or recording device at any of the sessions unless permission has been obtained from the relevant speaker.

Photography and Videography Disclaimer

By attending the AIDA 2025 Conference you grant AIDA and Partners the rights to use any recordings whether audio or video and/or any photographs taken at any stage during the conference for promotional, advertising or reporting purposes at their sole discretion.

If you do not wish to be photographed or filmed, please make yourself known to the photographer/videographer.

Speakers Preparation Room

Location: Business suite 2.1 | Level 2 | ICC

All speakers are required to check in at the speaker's preparation room at least 2 hours prior to presentation time.

Speakers prep will be open at the following times:

Thursday 27 November

7.30am – 4.30pm

Friday 28 November

7.30am – 4.30pm

Saturday 29 November

7.30am – 12.30pm

Special Diets

All venues have been advised of any special diet preferences you have indicated on your registration form. Please identify yourself to the venue staff as they come to serve you, and they will be pleased to provide you with preordered food. For day catering, please visit the dietary catering table and check with catering staff.

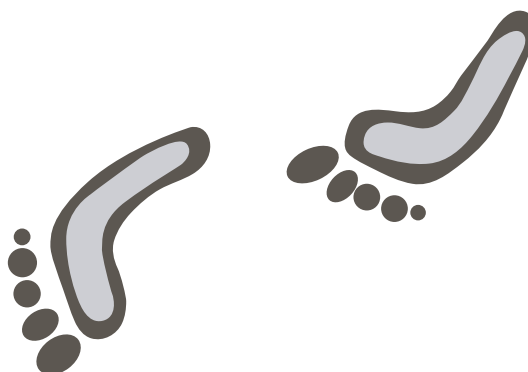
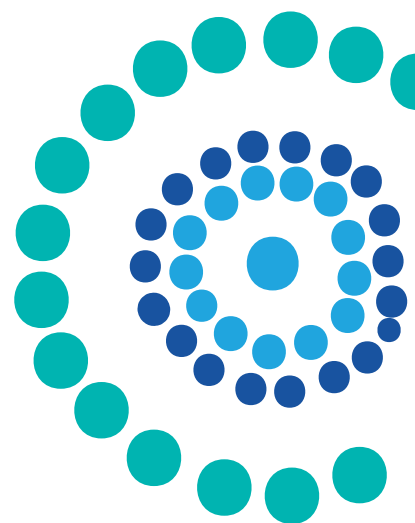
CODE OF CONDUCT

All AIDA 2025 Conference attendees agree to...

- Respect the traditional custodians of the Country we gather on, their land, waterways, Community and Elders.
- At all times behave in a way that upholds the values of AIDA.
- Treat everyone with respect, dignity, courtesy, sensitivity, and ensure that they do not become involved in or encourage discrimination or harassment.
- Practice cultural safety and respect the diversity of experiences, expertise, and opinions.
- Act professionally with discretion, confidentiality, and sound judgement.

AIDA values:

- Integrity
- Respect
- Professionalism
- Excellence
- Accountability
- Reciprocity



About the Artist

WILL (NGARRU) TOWNEY • RUU.THELABEL

I am a proud Wiradjuri man from Gilgandra, NSW, which lays alongside of the banks of the sandy Castlereagh River.

Art has been my escape from depression & feeling down about life's pressures. It's my safe place where i can get lost in the moment.

Something unique about myself in which I've known from an early age and have adapted to live with for my entire life is that I'm colour blind.

Having adopted this genetically inherited defect from my Irish Grandfather, it has at times been confusing for myself when dealing with colours. Below is a typical Ishihara test plate, part of a diagnostic test used all around the world.



If you see the no.74, then your colour-vision should be normal. If you are pretty colour-blind then you will see the no.21. But if you see absolutely no number, and you're a freaky fulla like me, you're reassuringly as useless as me.

This condition effects only 8% of men and 0.5% of women worldwide.

It definitely has its downsides, such as stopping me from joining the Royal Australian Airforce to fight for my country. Even though I can see through camouflage and have better night vision then most people. Apparently infrared lights would have been an issue.

BUT even though I'm colour blind, I've worked in the electrical industry for 18 years and haven't made a mistake. Being an artist, I do sometimes have trouble identifying colours. Some greens look grey, but my coping mechanism is to ask a woman... after all they do have less chances of being colour blind!

I hope you come to appreciate my gift and passion as I share a snippet of my culture with you.



THE STORY OF THE ARTWORK 'HEALING COMMUNITY'

Spiritual Healing: Water is a powerful way to heal the mind & overall mental wellbeing. It represents life and connection to country as a known sacred element. I personally feel at ease when near waterways and oceans, it frees my mind and helps me reset. A Community that lives this life are Our Torres Strait Islander Brothers & Sisters.

Indigenous Doctors: Central meeting place representing Our First Nations Doctors. They are positioned facing outward to show they aim to better Our Communities through their Knowledge as modern day healers.

Old Ways: Traditional Medicines and sources of dietary needs promote better physical health. Leading an active lifestyle and managing unnecessary stress/mental health issues without substance abuse is vital to creating positive role models in Our Communities.

The Messenger: As time progresses, we will have break throughs in Medical developments. It is important that we are up to date with what's on offer and how we can limit or eliminate health issues. Having the Doctors in Communities raising awareness will have a snowball effect on Our Mob seeking help.

Communities: All aspects of Health are what will promote a nurtured need of lifestyle changes. Having the tools and understanding to overcome health issues are key, which is why a holistic approach is necessary to overcome some health barriers limiting Our life expectancy as Indigenous People. Family & Community support creates a safe environment for those seeking help.

"Health & healing are interwoven, which means one can't be separated from the other".



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#AIDAConference25

Program

THANKS TO OUR PROGRAM SUPPORTER



Australian
Medical Council Limited

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THANK YOU TO OUR PROGRAM SUPPORTER




Australian
Medical Council Limited

Wednesday, 26 November 2025


1500-1800	Exhibition Bump In	Parkside Ballroom
1730-2100	Student Night <i>We welcome all registered students to join us at the Student Night ahead of the 2025 Program.</i> <i>This gathering will provide students the opportunity to connect ahead of the conference sessions commencing.</i>	The Rook Rooftop

Thursday, 27 November 2025 | MEMBERS DAY

0900-0915	Welcome to Country Uncle Brendan Kerin	Pymont Theatre
0915-0930	Members Welcome Dr Jonathan Newchurch	Pymont Theatre
0930-1000	Invited Speaker Dr Daniel Hunt Blood Borne Viruses and Sexual Transmitted Infection Advisory Committee 2024 Indigenous Doctor of the Year and 2025 NAIDOC Person of the Year <i>Chairperson: Dr Jonathan Newchurch</i>	Pymont Theatre
1000-1010	Platinum Sponsor Address: Medibank Dr Shona Sunderaj 	Pymont Theatre
1010-1040	Morning Refreshments & Trade Exhibition	Parkside Ballroom
1040-1200	Members Forum	Pymont Theatre
1200-1300	Lunch & Trade Exhibition	Parkside Ballroom

1300-1600	Student Support Workshop <i>Registered participants only</i> Facilitated by Prof Shane Hearn, Associate Dean Lead, First Nations Health Program Faculty of Health Sciences and Medicine, Bond University					E3.1 (upstairs)
1300-1430	Storytelling					
	MR2	MR3	MR4	MR5	MR6 Activity	Pymont Theatre
	The Story of AIDA: The Disrupters Dr Mark Wenitong and Prof Ngiare Brown	Honouring the Legacy of Dr Lowitja O'Donoghue: The First Patron of AIDA Led by Deb Edwards, Lowitja O'Donoghue Foundation	Medicine & Academia Dr Tamara Mackean		Happy Soul Strong Spirit: a unique cultural music and healing experience Led by Ken Hayward <i>SESSION ENDS AT 1:30PM</i>	The first Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service in Australia LaVerne Belleair, AMS Redfern
1430-1500	Afternoon Refreshments & Trade Exhibition					
1500-1700	Yarning Circles Activities					
	MR2 Yarning Circle	MR3 Yarning Circle	MR4 Yarning Circle	MR5 Yarning Circle	MR6 Activity	Pymont Skylight Activity
	Rainbow Mob (LGBTQIASB+) Facilitated by Dr Ngaree Blow and Dr Thomas Mylne	Prevocational: Wellness and Wellbeing (strengths approach) Facilitated by Bianca Field, AIDA	Where do you speak from? Country connection, identity, cultural authority and cultural responsibility as Indigenous Doctors Facilitated by Dr Alicia Veasey and Dr Gene Slookee	Second Order Priorities: Masterclass in dissecting & responding to common questions asked of Indigenous medical students & doctors Facilitated by Dr Louis Peachey, Atherton District Hospital	Spoken Word Poetry Workshop Led by Marina Alefosio	Weaving Workshop Led by Nula Weaving
	<i>This a confidential yarnning space only for Indigenous doctors and medical students who identify as LGBTQIASB+.</i>	<i>This a confidential yarnning space only for prevocational doctors who identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.</i>	<i>This a confidential yarnning space only for members who identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.</i>	<i>This a confidential yarnning space open to all AIDA members.</i>	<i>This activity is open for all AIDA members to join.</i>	<i>This activity is open for all AIDA members to join.</i>
1730-1930	Welcome Reception <i>Welcome to Gadigal Country! Here you'll connect with friends and colleagues, old and new. Enjoy a good yarn, delicious bites, and a lively atmosphere, setting the stage for an inspiring conference ahead. All delegates welcome.</i> Entertainment: Dyagula, accompanied by Jack Hickey					Pymont Foyer

Friday, 28 November 2025 | CONFERENCE DAY 1


0700-0800	Make connections on a morning walk Enjoy a self-guided morning walk around Tumbalong. Delegates interested in forming new connections while enjoying a walk around Darling Harbour. Groups / pairs will depart at their own time and pace throughout the morning.					Meet on Iron Wharf Place (between ICC Sydney and Sofitel)
0715-0815	Gather and Grow Breakfast A social gathering for Growing Our Fellows Students, trainees, Fellows and Junior Medical Officers are welcome to join us for an informal and social breakfast to meet with college representatives ahead of the commencement of the Growing Our Fellows concurrent sessions being held in Meeting Room 4 during the concurrent sessions. Grab a bite to eat and look to the future!					Pymont Foyer
0730-0830	Facilitators Breakfast <i>By invitation only, hosted by the AIDA Cultural Safety Team</i>					E3.1 (Upstairs)
0730-0800	Morning Yoga Proudly brought to you by CATSINaM 					Breakout Room Foyer Activity
0830-0840	Welcome to the AIDA 2025 Conference Dr Olivia O'Donoghue					Pymont Theatre
0840-0905	Welcome To Country & Cultural Dance Performance Buuja Buuja Butterfly Dancers					Pymont Theatre
0905-0915	Hon. Rebecca White Address Assistant Minister for Indigenous Health					Pymont Theatre
0915-1000	Keynote Presentation Mililma May Change the Record <i>Chairperson: Dr Olivia O'Donoghue</i>					Pymont Theatre
1000-1030	Morning Refreshments & Trade Exhibition Poster Presentations See the following posters and authors at the Poster Gallery during this break - The RANZCP Psychiatry Interest Forum: Empowering First Nations Psychiatry Workforce Khush Malek, Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists - Enhancing Ophthalmology Training through First Nations Placements Dr Thomas Mylne, RVEEH					Parkside Ballroom
1030-1230	Concurrent Session 1					
	Pymont Theatre	MR2	MR3	MR4	MR5	MR6
	Harmonising Mind, Body, and Spirit <i>Chairpersons: Rivkah Slansky and Guy Cameron</i>	2 Hour Clinical / Procedural Skills Workshop	2 Hour Clinical / Procedural Skills Workshop	Growing our Fellows	2 Hour Clinical / Procedural Skills Workshop	2 Hour Educational / Discussion Workshop
	Supporting Healing: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Practitioners as Central to Mind, Body, and Spirit	Australasian College of Dermatologists: Why, when and how to biopsy the skin? Suturing Workshop	AOA Exposure and Skills Orthopaedic Workshop Led by Dr Katherine Stannage and Dr Peter Moore,	1030-1100 The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG)	Practical Introduction to Ophthalmology Led by A/Prof Constantinos Petsoglou, A/Prof Mitchell Lawlor	Message stick talking circle: Exploring the power and tension of being First Nations Specialists in hospitals

	<p>Karl Briscoe, NAATSIHWP</p> <p>Reclaiming Sovereignty from the Inside Out Damien House, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons</p> <p>Strong Women, Stronger Futures: Improving Aboriginal Women's Breast Cancer Outcomes Dr Sarah Bormann, NALHN</p> <p>Learning on Country - a culturally immersive mock clinical exam Dr Josie Guyer, IGPTN</p>	<p>Led by Dr Rhiannon Russell, NSW Health</p> <p>Volunteers: Rhiannon Grange and Isaac Lange</p>	<p>Australian Orthopaedic Association</p> <p>Volunteers: Tamika Ponton and Joshua Ward</p>	<p><i>1100-1130</i> Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM)</p>	<p>and Dr Thomas Mylne, RANZCO</p> <p>Volunteers: Jessica Jeffery and Molly King</p>	<p>Led by Dr Gene Slockee and Dr Alicia Veasey, NSW Health</p> <p>Volunteers: Zamri Burns and Sharnell Avery</p>
	<p>Courageous Collaborations, Thriving Communities</p>			<p><i>1130-1200</i> Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP)</p>		
	<p>Goolarri Media Community-Led Health Promotion Claudia Walton-McDermott, UWA and WA Health - Child Adolescent Health Service</p>			<p><i>1200-1230</i> Royal Australasian College of Medical Administrators (RACMA)</p>		
1230-1330	<p>Lunch & Trade Exhibition</p> <p>Poster Presentations See the following posters and authors at the Poster Gallery for the first 30 minutes of this break</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indigenous Governance in Focus: Aboriginal Researchers' Insights from Health Research Georgia Taylor and Dr Angela Dos Santos, University of Melbourne Improving the Outcomes of First Nations Women with Gestational Diabetes Dr Bronte Meinertz, Albury Wodonga Health 					Parkside Ballroom
1330-1450	<p>Panel 1 Evoking Indigenous Health Sovereignty</p> <p>Panellists: Prof Yin Paradies, Deakin University Dr Jonathan Newchurch, AIDA Tanika Ridgeway, University of Newcastle Prof Jaqui Hughes, RACP & Flinders University</p> <p><i>Evoking Indigenous Health Sovereignty calls us to remember sovereignty not only as our birthright, but as a powerful force for collective healing by confronting political determinants of</i></p>					Pymont Theatre

	<p>health. This panel will explore how reclaiming self-determination, cultural authority, and relational ways of being are essential to restoring health justice for our Peoples.</p> <p>Chairperson: Dr Sarah Jane Springer</p>						
1450-1520	<p>Afternoon Refreshments & Trade Exhibition</p> <p>Poster Presentations See the following posters and authors at the Poster Gallery during this break</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - HCV prevalence and treatment uptake among Aboriginal peoples receiving testing Miranda Wallace, UNSW - Cultural awareness training deepens understanding and engagement with Indigenous perspectives Ms Aneta Kotevski and Dr Angela Dos Santos, University of Melbourne 						Parkside Ballroom
1520-1720	Concurrent Session 2						
	Pyrmont Theatre	MR2	MR3	MR4	MR5	MR6	Pyrmont Skylight
	<p>Empowering Voices, Advocating for Social Justice and Equity</p> <p>Chairpersons: Taya Barnett and Amy Searle</p>	<p>2 Hour Educational / Discussion Workshop</p>	<p>2 Hour Educational / Discussion Workshop</p>	<p>Growing our Fellows</p>	<p>2 Hour Clinical / Procedural Skills Workshop</p>	<p>2 Hour Educational / Discussion Workshop</p>	<p>Activity</p>
	<p>A cultural safety framework and culturally safe environment for surgical contexts Prof Yin Paradies, Deakin University</p> <p>Reviewing accreditation standards: Specialist Medical Programs in Australia and Aotearoa Melissa Johnson and Madeleine Novak, AMC</p> <p>Advancing Equity through the First Nations Eye Health Alliance Dr Thomas Mylne, RVEEH</p> <p>Improving the Outcomes of First Nations Women</p>	<p>From Strength to Strength</p> <p>Led by Dr Nicole Liesis and Dr Charley Greentree, ACEM</p> <p>Volunteers: Hannah Cochrane and Taslena Tapim</p>	<p>Unpacking the NHRA: Empowering Indigenous Doctors to Drive Systemic Change</p> <p>Led by Natalie Bryant, Chereta Daylight and A/Prof Sarah Neville, Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority</p> <p>Volunteers: Zac de Boeck and Rachel Park</p>	<p>1520-1550 Australasian College for Emergency Medicine (ACEM)</p> <p>1550-1620 College of Intensive Care Medicine of Australia and New Zealand (CICM)</p> <p>1620-1650 Australian & New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA)</p>	<p>RACS Surgical Skills Workshop</p> <p>Lead by Prof Kelvin Kong, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons</p> <p>Volunteers: Cody Logan and Marlia Broomhall</p>	<p>Training your brain to achieve peak performance under pressure</p> <p>Led by Dr Anthony Ryan, Dr Janine Senekal and Dr Veronique Richard, Mater Hospital Brisbane</p> <p>Volunteers: Eden Siemsen and Adam Wilson</p>	<p>Happy Soul Strong Spirit: a unique cultural music and healing experience</p> <p>Led by Ken Hayward</p> <p><i>SESSION ENDS AT 3:50PM</i></p>

	with Gestational Diabetes Dr Bronte Meinertz, Albury Wodonga Health						
	Courageous Collaborations, Thriving Communities						
	Kaupapa Māori methodologies to implementation success: Turning research into practice Dr Nina Scott, Māori Health, Health New Zealand Te Whatu Ora						
	<i>SESSION ENDS AT 5:00PM</i>						

Saturday, 29 November 2025 | CONFERENCE DAY 2

0700-0800	Make connections on a morning walk Enjoy a self-guided morning walk around Tumbalong Delegates interested in forming new connections while enjoying a walk around Darling Harbour. Groups / pairs will depart at their own time and pace throughout the morning.	Meet on Iron Wharf Place (<i>between ICC Sydney and Sofitel</i>)
0730-0830	President's Breakfast <i>By invitation only</i>	E3.1 (Upstairs)
0730-0800	Morning Yoga Proudly brought to you by CATSINaM 	Pymont Skylight Activity
0830-0840	Acknowledgement of Country and Day Open Dr Jean Pepperill	Pymont Theatre
0840-0925	Keynote Presentation Professor Derek Chong Quantum Psychiatry <i>Chairperson: Dr Jean Pepperill</i>	Pymont Theatre
0925-1010	Panel 2 Caring for Country: Flows Both Ways Panellists: Prof Derek Chong, Quantum Psychiatry Milima May Dr Robert Blackley, AIDA Caring for Country: Flows Both Ways explores the reciprocal relationship between land and people, and the deep healing that occurs when we uphold our responsibilities to Country. This conversation will centre the stories and strategies where Country cares for us, as we care for it, enabling journeys of cultural renewal, ecological justice and collective wellbeing. <i>Chairperson: Dr Jean Pepperill</i>	Pymont Theatre
1010-1040	Morning Refreshments & Trade Exhibition	Parkside Ballroom
	Media Training Session 1, with NITV <i>Registered participants only</i>	Room E3.1 (upstairs)
Concurrent Session 3		
	Pymont Theatre	MR2
		MR3
		MR4
		MR5
		MR6

1040-1240	<p>The Quick and The Deadly Session</p> <p><i>Facilitated by Dr Olivia O'Donoghue</i></p>	<p>2 Hour Educational / Discussion Workshop</p>	<p>2 Hour Educational / Discussion Workshop</p>	<p>Growing our Fellows</p>	<p>2 Hour Educational / Discussion Workshop</p>	<p>2 Hour Clinical / Procedural Skills Workshop</p>
	<p>Judging panel: <i>Benjamin Crook, Allysha Jensen and Emily Thomson</i></p> <p>From Battlefield to Bedside Mr Zamri Burns, University of Sydney</p> <p>HCV prevalence and treatment uptake among Aboriginal peoples receiving testing Miranda Wallace, UNSW</p> <p>Embedding Culturally Responsive Healthcare into Junior Medical Officer Training Dr Paige Ara, South Western Sydney Local Health District</p> <p>Financial Burden of Placement on Indigenous Medical Students: Preliminary Study Jennifer Gulson, James Cook University</p> <p>Towards Equity in Medicine: Aboriginal doctors in Specialist Training Dr Sarah Bormann, NALHN</p> <p>A uniquely Narawi perspective on medicine, keep the rage Dr Narawi Foley Boscott, Queensland Health</p> <p><i>SESSION ENDS AT 11:55AM</i></p>	<p>Gumby Gumby and Traditional Bush Medicines: Centering Cultural Healing Practices</p> <p>Led by Dr Ngaree Blow, Dr Crystal Williams and Uncle Gene Blow, University of Melbourne</p> <p>Volunteers: Brittany Ruska and Angus Loft</p>	<p>Pathways, Perspectives and Partnerships: Navigating O&G with Cultural Safety</p> <p>Led by Dr Marilyn Clarke, RANZCOG</p> <p>Volunteer: Leah Moncrieff</p>	<p><i>1040-1110</i> The Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP)</p> <p><i>1110-1140</i> The Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia (RCPA)</p> <p><i>1140-1210</i> Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (RANZCP)</p> <p><i>1210-1240</i> The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (RANZCR)</p>	<p>Desert Mob Learnings: Navigating Cultural Barriers in ICU Family Meetings</p> <p>Led by Dr Penny Stewart and Patrick Torres, College of Intensive Care Medicine</p> <p>Volunteer: Megan Shuttleworth</p>	<p>Enhancing Clinical Competence: Clinical Skills and Communication for Junior Doctors</p> <p>Led by Dr Glenn Harrison, Australasian College for Emergency Medicine</p> <p>Volunteers: Cody Logan and Marlia Broomhall</p>
1240-1340	<p>Lunch & Trade Exhibition</p> <p>Poster Presentations See the following posters and authors at the Poster Gallery for the first 30 minutes of this break</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tharawal Aboriginal Medical Service Metabolic Health Program Dr Saretta Lee, Tharawal Aboriginal Medical Service Reclaiming Authority: Implementing First Nations Governance in Mainstream Research Collaborations Dr Aneta Kotevski, University of Melbourne 					Parkside Ballroom
1340-1425	<p>Keynote Presentation Professor Eddie Cubillo Mabo Centre, University of Melbourne <i>Chairperson: Jennifer Gulson</i></p>					Pymont Theatre

1425-1440	Group Photo Follow the guides to the outdoor location of this years' group photo, taking place outside of the ICC Sydney following the Keynote Presentation.					Outdoors <i>Follow staff and volunteers</i>
1440-1510	Afternoon Refreshments & Trade Exhibition					Parkside Ballroom
1510-1710	Media Training Session 2, with NITV <i>Registered participants only</i>					Room E3.1 (upstairs)
	Concurrent Session 4					
	Pyrmont Theatre	MR2	MR3	MR4	MR5	MR6
	Courageous Collaborations, Thriving Communities <i>Chairpersons: Isabella Ryan and David Parsons</i>	1 Hour Educational / Discussion Workshop	Empowering Voices, Advocating for Social Justice and Equity <i>Chairpersons: Zoe Hunt and Madeleine Hughes</i>	Growing our Fellows		Activity
	More Than a Haircut: Healing, Hope and Connection on Country Kaleena Webbe, SE NSW PHN Power in Partnerships: Growing a Culturally Safe Rural Workforce Dr Emily Thomson and Dr Richard Colbran, Rural Doctors Network Importance of Health Cultural Immersion Camps – Desert MOB Style Dr Penny Stewart and Patrick Torres, Flinders University <i>SESSION ENDS AT 4:10PM</i>	Caring for Country, Community and Self: medicolegal issues in practice Led by Dr Owen Bradfield, Medical Indemnity Protection Society Volunteers: Paige Ara and Kira Wilson <i>SESSION ENDS AT 4:10PM</i>	Aboriginal Community and University Relationships Prof Brad Murphy and Mayor Bruce Simpson, University of Queensland Bush Babies & Scabies: It's Not Just a Rash Dr Georgia Pace, Dubbo Base Hospital Strengthening Aboriginal Family Involvement in the Paediatric ESCALATION System Claudia Walton–McDermott, UWA and WA Health – Child Adolescent Health Service United Nations Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, a Medical Students Experience Aleda Bayley, UTAS <i>SESSION ENDS AT 4:30PM</i>	<i>1510-1540</i> The Australasian College of Dermatologists (ACD) <i>1540-1610</i> Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) <i>1610-1640</i> Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists (RANZCO)		Happy Soul Strong Spirit: a unique cultural music and healing experience Led by Ken Hayward <i>SESSION ENDS AT 3:40PM</i>

1815-2330	<p>Gala Dinner Stethoscope Presentations & Awards Night Proudly brought to you by Department of Health, Disability and Ageing</p> <p><i>Tickets are essential!</i></p> <p>Join us at Luna Park under the Big Top for the prestigious Gala Dinner - the perfect opportunity to meet and network with peers, complete with delicious cuisine, a stunning venue, and exciting entertainment. The Gala Dinner is the most anticipated night of the AIDA conference and is the perfect way to celebrate the conference, all while enjoying a luxurious night out.</p> <p>This also combines with our Awards Night and Stethoscope Presentation where AIDA members are gifted with a hand-painted AIDA stethoscope upon graduating from medical school or becoming a Fellow.</p> <p>Don't miss out on this unforgettable experience that will leave you feeling inspired, fulfilled, and connected!</p> <p>Smoking Ceremony: Raymond Weatherall MC: JP Janke Dance Performance: Kebi Kub Dance Team DJ: Latifa Tee Headline Act: Mi-Kaisha</p> 	Luna Park
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THANK YOU TO OUR PROGRAM SUPPORTER



The Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association (AIDA) and the Working Group reserve the right to alter the program schedule, content, and speakers at any time and without notice.



Invited Speaker



DR DANIEL HUNT

Dr. Daniel Hunt, a Jaru and Indjibarndi man and General Practitioner, has a keen interest in the health of priority populations, particularly Aboriginal Health.

He serves as Deputy Chair of the Blood Borne Viruses and Sexual Transmitted Infection Advisory Committee for WA and has an interest in the Australian Syphilis epidemic, providing advice on a state and national level.

In 2022, Daniel was awarded General Practitioner in Training of the Year for WA, 2024 Indigenous Doctor of the Year and NAIDOC person of the year in 2025.

Keynote Speakers



MILILMA MAY

Mililma May is a Danggalaba Kulumbiringin Tiwi woman. Currently serving as the Campaigns and Advocacy Manager at Change the Record, Mililma is committed to ensuring that Indigenous peoples are self-determined, empowered and learned, with a core focus on operating from a place of anti-colonialism.

At Change the Record, this work involves centering First Nations peoples and people with lived experience in all areas of decision making, shifting power to the grassroots ensuring that opportunities are shared and most importantly, moving away from siloed approaches to advocacy and towards meaningful collaboration.

Mililma is relentlessly driven by a singular vision: that self-determination and the liberation of Blackfullas must centre a future where every single Indigenous child thrives.

Invited Speaker



PROFESSOR EDDIE CUBILLO

Professor Eddie Cubillo is a Larrakia, Wadjigan, and Central Arrernte man from the Northern Territory, with strong connections across both urban and remote Indigenous communities. A respected legal scholar and leading advocate for Indigenous justice, he has held senior roles including Anti-Discrimination Commissioner of the Northern Territory, Executive Officer of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Services (NATSILS), and Director of Community Engagement for the Royal Commission into the Protection and Detention of Children in the NT.

Professor Cubillo holds a PhD in Law and has served as Associate Dean (Indigenous Programs) at Melbourne Law School. He is currently on sabbatical from his role as the inaugural Director of the Mabo Centre at the University of Melbourne.

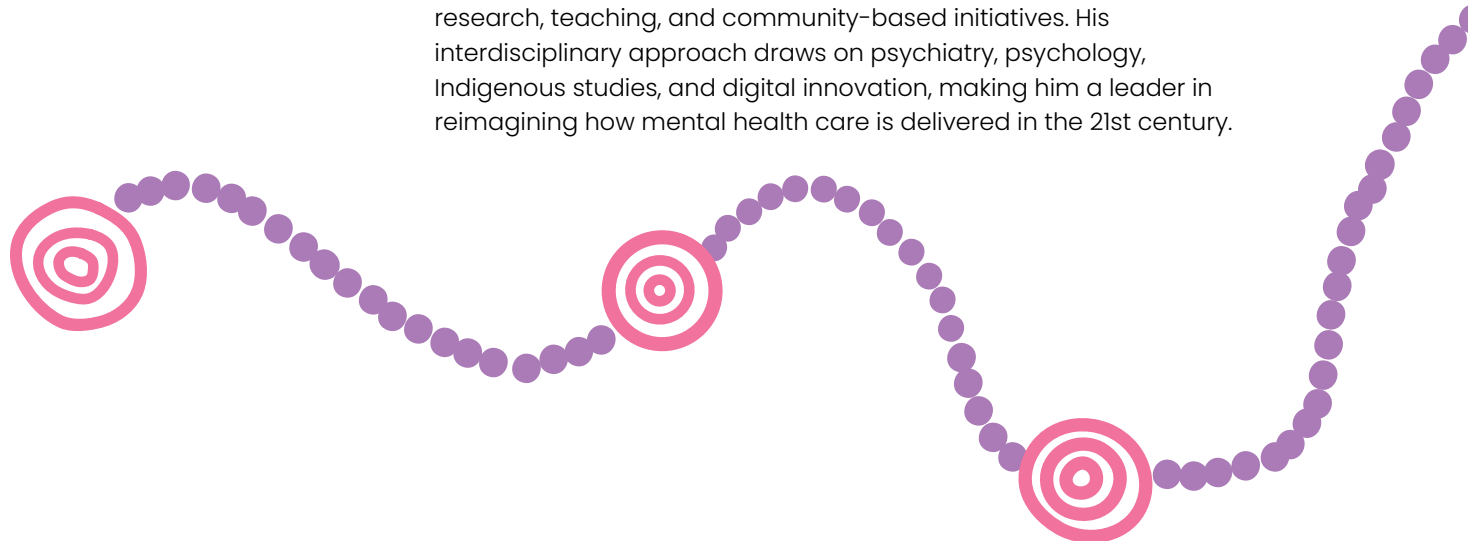


PROFESSOR DEREK CHONG

Professor/Dr. Derek Chong is an innovative academic and mental health professional whose work bridges clinical psychiatry, cultural healing practices, and cutting-edge technology. With a focus on Indigenous mental health and psychosocial well-being, Dr. Chong has dedicated his career to advancing holistic approaches to care that integrate both Western medicine and traditional knowledge systems.

He is the visionary behind the development of a virtual reality psychiatric hospital, designed to provide accessible, culturally safe, and immersive therapeutic experiences for Indigenous populations worldwide, particularly in Australia. His research and professional practice highlight the importance of culture, language, and community in fostering resilience, reducing recidivism, and addressing mental health disparities.

Throughout his career, Dr. Chong has contributed to academic research, teaching, and community-based initiatives. His interdisciplinary approach draws on psychiatry, psychology, Indigenous studies, and digital innovation, making him a leader in reimagining how mental health care is delivered in the 21st century.





Growing our Fellows at the AIDA 2025 Conference

GATHER AND GROW BREAKFAST

Friday, 28 August 2025 • 7:15 AM - 8:15 AM
Pymont Foyer, ICC Sydney

To kick off the Growing Our Fellows sessions, we're pleased to introduce the Gather and Grow Breakfast!

Taking place on Friday morning, this relaxed, informal event is designed to foster early connections in a social setting – including a complimentary stand-up breakfast.

The breakfast event will promote conversations, allowing delegates and college representatives to connect in a casual setting.

Each college will deliver a brief two-minute speed talk to the group to showcase their offerings.

Students, trainees, Fellows and Junior Medical Officers are encouraged to join us for an informal and social breakfast to meet with college representatives ahead of the commencement of the Growing Our Fellows sessions being held in Meeting Room 4 during the concurrent sessions.

GROWING OUR FELLOWS SESSIONS

Friday and Saturday during the concurrent sessions | Meeting Room 4

This year the Growing Our Fellows sessions will be held during the concurrent sessions.

The sessions offer a meaningful space for connection, learning, and inspiration.

Each participating college will have a dedicated 30-minute session scheduled across Friday 28 or Saturday 29 November. These sessions will run concurrently with other workshops and oral presentations and will take place in Room 4, which is specifically allocated for Growing Our Fellows.

View the conference program to see the schedule.

Social Functions

STUDENT NIGHT

Wednesday, 26 November 2025 | 5:30PM - 9PM | The Rook Rooftop

A ticket to the student function is included in all Full Student Registrations.

Students, don't miss out on bonding with others at the same stage of their career - this is the perfect opportunity to form connections before the conference begins.

Join us for a night of trivia and a social dinner at The Rook Rooftop - there will be prizes for winning teams, dinner is included, you'll only need to buy your own drinks.

This social event is for students only.

Dress code: Casual



WELCOME RECEPTION

Thursday, 27 November 2025 | 5:30pm - 7:30pm | ICC Sydney

A ticket to the function is included in all Full Registrations.

Guest tickets or Day Delegate tickets can be purchased at \$75 each.

Children under the age of 12 can attend at no cost. You must indicate the number of children attending when registering.

Join us as we kick-off the AIDA 2025 Conference with the Welcome Reception, where you'll connect with friends and colleagues, old and new. Enjoy a good yarn, delicious bites, and a lively atmosphere, setting the stage for an inspiring few days ahead.

With entertainment by Dyagula, accompanied by Jack Hickey.

Welcome to Gadigal Country!

Dress code: Business casual





GALA DINNER

Saturday, 29 November 2025 | 6:30PM - 11:30PM | Luna Park

A ticket to the function is included in all Full Registrations

Guest tickets or Day Delegate tickets can be purchased at \$200 each | Tickets for children aged 5-12 can be purchased at \$55 each.

Children under the age of 4 can attend at no extra cost. You must indicate the number of children attending when registering.

Join us under the Big Top at Luna Park for the prestigious Gala Dinner – the conference's most anticipated night. Enjoy an evening of fine dining, vibrant entertainment, and meaningful connection in a spectacular, immersive setting. The Gala also features our Awards Night and Stethoscope Presentation, where graduating members and new Fellows are honoured with a hand-painted AIDA stethoscope. Don't miss this unforgettable celebration.

With entertainment by Mi-Kaisha and DJ Latifa Tee.

Don't miss out on this unforgettable experience that will leave you feeling inspired, fulfilled, and connected!

Dress code: Cocktail

With thanks to our our Gala Dinner Sponsor



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