



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.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people should be aware that the program and/or sessions may contain images, voices and names of people who have passed.

Thank you to our Program Supporter:



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. 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 and Terry Olsen <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 Slockee	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 yarning space only for Indigenous doctors and medical students who identify as LGBTQIASB+.</i>	<i>This a confidential yarning space only for prevocational doctors who identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.</i>	<i>This a confidential yarning space only for members who identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.</i>	<i>This a confidential yarning 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> <i>Entertainment: Dyagula, accompanied by Jack Hickey</i>					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 (<i>between ICC Sydney and Sofitel</i>)
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 	Exhibition Lounge 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
	<i>Harmonising Mind, Body, and Spirit</i> <i>Chairpersons:</i> <i>Rivkah Slansky and Guy Cameron</i>	<i>2 Hour Clinical / Procedural Skills Workshop</i>	<i>2 Hour Clinical / Procedural Skills Workshop</i>	<i>Growing our Fellows</i>	<i>2 Hour Clinical / Procedural Skills Workshop</i>	<i>2 Hour Educational / Discussion Workshop</i>
	Supporting Healing: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Practitioners as Central to Mind, Body, and Spirit Desiree Leha, NAATSIHWP	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, Australian Orthopaedic Association	<i>1030-1100</i> 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 and Dr Thomas Mylne, RANZCO	Message stick talking circle: Exploring the power and tension of being First Nations Specialists in hospitals Led by Dr Gene Slockee and Dr Alicia Veasey, NSW Health
	Reclaiming Sovereignty from the Inside Out Damien House, Australian Orthopaedic Association	Led by Dr Rhiannon Russell, NSW Health		<i>1100-1130</i> Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM)		
	Strong Women, Stronger Futures: Improving Aboriginal Women's Breast Cancer Outcomes Dr Sarah Bormann, NALHN	Volunteers: Rhiannon Grange and Isaac Lange	Volunteers: Tamika Ponton and Joshua Ward	<i>1130-1200</i> Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP)	Volunteers: Jessica Jeffery and Molly King	Volunteers: Zamri Burns and Sharnell Avery
	Learning on Country - a culturally immersive mock clinical exam Dr Josie Guyer, IGPTN					
	Courageous Collaborations, Thriving Communities					
	Goolarri Media Community-Led Health Promotion Claudia Walton-McDermott, UWA and WA Health - Child Adolescent Health Service			<i>1200-1230</i> Royal Australasian College of Medical Administrators (RACMA)		
1230-1330	Lunch & Trade Exhibition Poster Presentations See the following posters and authors at the Poster Gallery for the first 30 minutes of this break 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	Panel 1 Evoking Indigenous Health Sovereignty Panellists: Prof Yin Paradies, Deakin University Dr Jonathan Newchurch, AIDA Tanika Ridgeway, University of Newcastle Prof Jaqui Hughes, RACP & Flinders University <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 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.</i> <i>Chairperson: Dr Sarah Jane Springer</i>						Pymont Theatre
1450-1520	Afternoon Refreshments & Trade Exhibition Poster Presentations See the following posters and authors at the Poster Gallery during this break - 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						
	Pymont Theatre	MR2	MR3	MR4	MR5	MR6	Pymont Skylight
	<i>Empowering Voices, Advocating for Social Justice and Equity</i> <i>Chairpersons:</i> <i>Taya Barnett and Amy Searle</i>	<i>2 Hour Educational / Discussion Workshop</i>	<i>2 Hour Educational / Discussion Workshop</i>	<i>Growing our Fellows</i>	<i>2 Hour Clinical / Procedural Skills Workshop</i>	<i>2 Hour Educational / Discussion Workshop</i>	<i>Activity</i>
	A cultural safety framework and culturally safe environment for surgical contexts Prof Yin Paradies, Deakin University Reviewing accreditation standards: Specialist Medical Programs in Australia and Aotearoa Melissa Johnson and Madeleine Novak, AMC Advancing Equity through the First Nations Eye Health Alliance Dr Thomas Mylne, RVEEH Improving the Outcomes of First Nations Women with Gestational Diabetes Dr Bronte Meinertz, Albury Wodonga Health	From Strength to Strength Led by Dr Nicole Liesis and Dr Charley Greentree, ACEM Volunteers: Hannah Cochrane and Taslena Tapim	Unpacking the NHRA: Empowering Indigenous Doctors to Drive Systemic Change Led by Natalie Bryant, Chereta Daylight and A/Prof Sarah Neville, Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority Volunteers: Zac de Boeck and Rachel Park	<i>1520-1550</i> Australasian College for Emergency Medicine (ACEM) <i>1550-1620</i> College of Intensive Care Medicine of Australia and New Zealand (CICM) <i>1620-1650</i> Australian & New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA)	RACS Surgical Skills Workshop Lead by Prof Kelvin Kong, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Volunteers: Cody Logan and Marlia Broomhall	Training your brain to achieve peak performance under pressure Led by Dr Anthony Ryan, Dr Janine Senekal and Dr Veronique Richard, Mater Hospital Brisbane Volunteers: Eden Siemsen and Adam Wilson	Happy Soul Strong Spirit: a unique cultural music and healing experience Led by Ken Hayward and Terry Olsen <i>SESSION ENDS AT 3:50PM</i>
	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 (between ICC Sydney and Sofitel)
0730-0830	President's Breakfast <i>By invitation only</i>					E3.1 (Upstairs)
0730-0800	Morning Yoga Proudly brought to you by CATSINaM  CATSINaM Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives					Pyrmont Skylight Activity
0830-0840	Acknowledgement of Country and Day Open Dr Jean Pepperill					Pyrmont Theatre
0840-0925	Keynote Presentation Professor Derek Chong Quantum Psychiatry <i>Chairperson: Dr Jean Pepperill</i>					Pyrmont 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>					Pyrmont Theatre
1010-1040	Morning Refreshments & Trade Exhibition					Parkside Ballroom
1040-1240	Media Training Session 1, with NITV <i>Registered participants only</i>					Room E3.1 (upstairs)
	Concurrent Session 3					
	Pyrmont Theatre	MR2	MR3	MR4	MR5	MR6
	<i>The Quick and The Deadly Session</i> <i>Facilitated by Dr Olivia O'Donoghue</i>	<i>2 Hour Educational / Discussion Workshop</i>	<i>2 Hour Educational / Discussion Workshop</i>	<i>Growing our Fellows</i>	<i>2 Hour Educational / Discussion Workshop</i>	<i>2 Hour Clinical / Procedural Skills Workshop</i>
	Judging panel: <i>Benjamin Crook, Allysha Jensen and Emily Thomson</i> From Battlefield to Bedside Mr Zamri Burns, University of Sydney HCV prevalence and treatment uptake among Aboriginal peoples receiving testing Miranda Wallace, UNSW Embedding Culturally Responsive Healthcare into Junior Medical Officer Training Dr Paige Ara, South Western Sydney Local Health District Financial Burden of Placement on Indigenous Medical Students: Preliminary Study Jennifer Gulson, James Cook University Towards Equity in Medicine: Aboriginal doctors in Specialist Training	Gumby Gumby and Traditional Bush Medicines: Centering Cultural Healing Practices Led by Dr Ngaree Blow, Dr Crystal Williams and Uncle Gene Blow, University of Melbourne Volunteers: Brittany Ruska and Angus Loft	Pathways, Perspectives and Partnerships: Navigating O&G with Cultural Safety Led by Dr Marilyn Clarke, RANZCOG Volunteer: Leah Moncrieff	1040-1110 The Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) 1110-1140 The Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia (RCPA) 1140-1210 Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (RANZCP)	Desert Mob Learnings: Navigating Cultural Barriers in ICU Family Meetings Led by Dr Penny Stewart and Patrick Torres, College of Intensive Care Medicine Volunteer: Megan Shuttleworth	Enhancing Clinical Competence: Clinical Skills and Communication for Junior Doctors Led by Dr Glenn Harrison, Australasian College for Emergency Medicine Volunteers: Cody Logan and Marlia Broomhall

	Dr Sarah Bormann, NALHN A uniquely Narawi perspective on medicine, keep the rage Dr Narawi Foley Boscott, Queensland Health <i>SESSION ENDS AT 11:55AM</i>			<i>1210-1240</i> The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (RANZCR)		
1240-1340	Lunch & Trade Exhibition Poster Presentations See the following posters and authors at the Poster Gallery for the first 30 minutes of this break 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	Keynote Presentation Professor Eddie Cubillo Mabo Centre, University of Melbourne <i>Chairperson: Jennifer Gulson</i>					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					
	Pymont Theatre	MR2	MR3	MR4	MR5	MR6
	<i>Courageous Collaborations, Thriving Communities</i> <i>Chairpersons: Isabella Ryan and Madeleine Hughes</i>	<i>1 Hour Educational / Discussion Workshop</i>	<i>Empowering Voices, Advocating for Social Justice and Equity</i> <i>Chairpersons: Zoe Hunt and David Parsons</i>	<i>Growing our Fellows</i>		<i>Activity</i>
	Importance of Health Cultural Immersion Camps – Desert MOB Style Dr Penny Stewart and Patrick Torres, Flinders University Power in Partnerships: Growing a Culturally Safe Rural Workforce Dr Emily Thomson and Dr Richard Colbran, Rural Doctors Network <i>SESSION ENDS AT 4:10PM</i>	Caring for Country, Community and Self: medicolegal issues in practice Led by Dr Owen Bradfield and joined by Dr Carrie McKenzie, 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 and Terry Olsen <i>SESSION ENDS AT 3:40PM</i>

1830-2330	Gala Dinner Stethoscope Presentations & Awards Night Proudly brought to you by Department of Health, Disability and Ageing <i>Tickets are essential!</i> <i>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.</i> <i>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.</i> <i>Don't miss out on this unforgettable experience that will leave you feeling inspired, fulfilled, and connected!</i> Smoking Ceremony: Raymond Weatherall MC: JP Janke Dance Performance: Kebi Kub Dance Team DJ: Latifa Tee Headline Act: Mi-Kaisha  Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing	Luna Park
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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.

Thank you to our Program Supporter:

