



ABORIGINAL HEALTH 2025 CONFERENCE

**Saturday 9 and
Sunday 10 August 2025**
PAN PACIFIC PERTH
BOORLOO

**RURAL
HEALTH
WEST**



Government of Western Australia
WA Country Health Service

This conference is delivered by Rural Health West
in partnership with WA Country Health Service.

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Contact us

Level 2, 10 Stirling Highway
Nedlands WA 6009

PO Box 433
Nedlands WA 6909

T 08 6389 4500
E ahc@ruralhealthwest.com.au

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About the Conference

The Aboriginal Health Conference 2025 will take place at **Pan Pacific Perth** on **Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 August 2025**.

This annual conference is delivered by Rural Health West in partnership with WA Country Health Service and focuses on Aboriginal health.

The conference brings together health professionals to share knowledge, insights, and innovations to improve health outcomes. It typically includes a range of presentations, panel sessions, case study discussions, workshops, and networking opportunities, with a strong emphasis on collaboration and cultural understanding.

The Aboriginal Health Conference is attended by:

- Aboriginal Health Workers
- Aboriginal Health Practitioners
- Academics
- Allied Health Workers
- GPs, Medical Practitioners and Medical Officers
- Health and Medical Students
- Health Organisations and Stakeholders
- Medical Registrars
- Nurses and Midwives

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Theme

The 2025 theme, **Writing the Narrative – Telling Our Stories**, highlights the power of stories and how they shape identities, preserve culture and influence change.

In Aboriginal health, storytelling is more than just sharing experiences, it is a tool for healing, advocacy and self-determination. This conference centres on the strength of Aboriginal voices in shaping health policies, services and outcomes.

By reclaiming our narratives, we challenge outdated models, highlight community-led solutions and ensure that Aboriginal ways of knowing and being are embedded in healthcare. Through shared stories, we empower individuals, strengthen communities and create a future where Aboriginal-led health initiatives thrive.

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Streams

The conference program features five streams, providing comprehensive insights into crucial aspects of Aboriginal health. Abstracts that align to a conference stream are preferred, but not essential.

While these streams are provided for guidance, abstracts may be applicable across multiple streams and all innovative projects, programs, research and initiatives are encouraged to submit.

Building Trust and Collaborating with Community

Strengthening relationships between Aboriginal communities and healthcare professionals is essential for culturally safe care. This stream explores best practices for fostering trust, respecting community leadership, and ensuring Aboriginal voices are central in healthcare decision-making.

Chronic Disease: Prevention, Management, and Community-Led Solutions

Chronic disease remains a major health challenge for Aboriginal communities. This stream focuses on prevention, culturally safe care models, and innovative community-driven strategies for better health outcomes.

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Healing and Wellbeing Through Storytelling

Storytelling is central to healing, resilience, and strong mental health. This stream explores how personal narratives, cultural expression, and traditional knowledge support social and emotional well-being. Discussions will focus on trauma-informed care, early intervention, suicide prevention, and the role of storytelling in strengthening identity and connection to culture.

Sexual Health: Empowering Communities with Knowledge and Access

Sexual health is a vital part of overall well-being. This stream focuses on reducing rates of STIs, supporting reproductive health, and ensuring Aboriginal-led approaches to sexual health education and access to services.

Supporting Wellbeing from Birth to Eldership

Health is a lifelong journey, and each stage of life presents unique challenges and opportunities. This stream explores the importance of holistic, culturally connected care across generations, from maternal and child health to aging well.

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Who Should Submit?

Rural Health West welcomes abstract submissions from individuals and groups passionate about improving Aboriginal health and well-being. We encourage contributions from:

- **Health professionals** working across all sectors of healthcare.
- **Students** pursuing studies in health, medicine, public health, or related fields.
- **Researchers and academics** with insights into Aboriginal health challenges, strengths, and innovations.
- **Educators and trainers** supporting the development of the Aboriginal health workforce.
- **Community leaders and health advocates** driving positive change in Aboriginal health outcomes.

Preference will be given to presentation and E-poster abstracts that are **action-oriented**, **strengths-based**, and **solution-focused**. If you have knowledge, experiences, or initiatives that support self-determination of Aboriginal people, we encourage you to submit an abstract.

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Abstract Types

Authors are invited to submit one or more abstracts in the following formats:

Oral Presentations - 20 minutes

A 20-minute presentation (15 minutes + 5 minute Q&A) allowing speakers to share their insights, research, or initiatives with an audience during a conference session. Oral presentations should be engaging and informative.

E-Poster Presentations

Electronic posters will be displayed on screens in the trade exhibition for delegates to discuss with the presenter during the allocated break. E-posters provide an opportunity to showcase research, projects, or initiatives in a visually engaging format.

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Important Dates

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER	
Call for abstracts open	Wednesday 26 February 2025
Call for abstracts close	Wednesday 23 April 2025
Notification of selection outcome	Friday 9 May 2025
Written acceptance of offer to present	Friday 16 May 2025
Deadline for presenter registration	Friday 23 May 2025
Deadline for abstract summary and e-poster artwork	Friday 13 June 2025
Aboriginal Health Conference 2025	Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 August 2025

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Abstract Submission Process

Abstracts will go through the following process:

1. All abstracts will be reviewed by the Conference Committee.
 - a. Acceptance of an abstract will be based on the degree to which the abstract matches the streams of the conference.
 - b. All abstracts will be considered based on the merit of the individual submission and will be assessed according to the following criteria:
 - i. Relevance to conference streams and learning objectives addressed
 - ii. Importance of presentation topic
 - iii. Relevance of content to audience
 - iv. Contemporary or innovative issue
 - c. Abstracts with a clear evidence base will be prioritised.
2. The final date for submission of abstracts is **23 April 2025**. Any abstracts received after this date **WILL NOT** be accepted.
3. Authors will be notified of their abstract results by **9 May 2025**.
4. All accepted abstracts will be published on the conference website.
5. Rural Health West requires written confirmation of the presentation offer by **16 May 2025**.
6. Presenters must have registered to attend the conference by **23 May 2025**.
Payment of conference registration is a condition of presenting at the conference.
7. Presenters will be responsible for their own travel to and from the conference. Full conference delegate registration may mean a presenter is eligible to receive travel support. Please refer to the information provided below to ascertain your eligibility.

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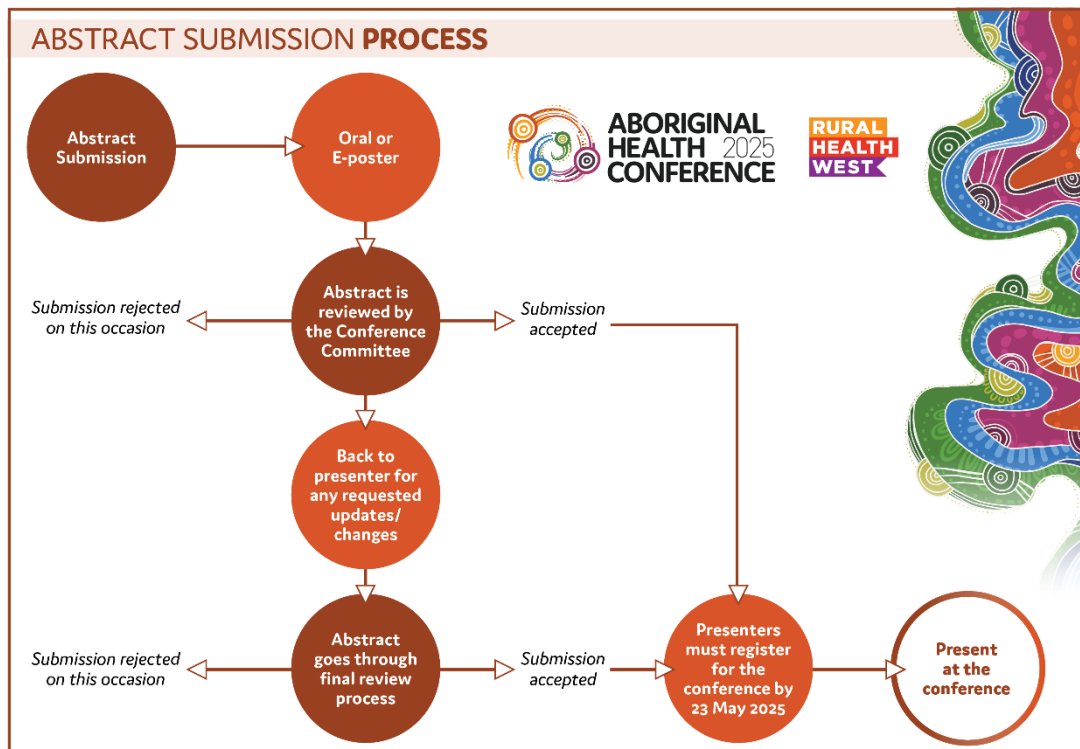
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Abstract Submission Guidelines

1. All abstracts must be:
 - a. structured providing an outline of the aim/s and content of the presentation.
 - b. no more than 300 words long.
 - c. completed in full, including a biography of each presenting author(s).
 - d. submitted electronically via the [abstract portal](#).
 - e. submitted by 5pm Australian Western Standard Time (AWST) on **23 April 2025**. Abstracts received after this date **WILL NOT** be accepted.
 - f. presented by the specified presenting author(s) except in an emergency, such as illness, where an alternative speaker can be nominated. The first author (as given on the abstract submission form) will be the main contact for any correspondence.
2. Accepted oral presentations will be 20 minutes (including questions).
3. Accepted E-poster presentations will be displayed during the conference at allocated breaks.
4. The Conference Committee reserves the right to accept or refuse any paper.
5. The acceptance of an abstract does not imply funding by Rural Health West.
6. Successful applicants will be notified by **9 May 2025** and will have until **16 May 2025** to provide written acceptance of offer and **23 May 2025** to register for the conference.

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Travel Support Eligibility

If you can answer 'yes' to all of the below questions, you are likely eligible!

- Do you live and work permanently in a region other than Perth or Peel in Western Australia?
- Are you currently working as a health professional (including GPs, Medical Practitioners, Nurses, Midwives, Allied Health Workers, Aboriginal Health Practitioners/Workers)?
- Are you travelling specifically for the purpose of attending the conference?
- Have you registered for both days of the conference?
- Did you or will you attend the conference in full (both days) and demonstrate attendance by scanning into every session?
- Can you provide tax receipts for your fuel or flight travel expenses?

If you have any questions regarding your eligibility, please contact the Events Team at ahc@ruralhealthwest.com.au.

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Travel Support Allowance

Travel allowance by region per person (eligible conference delegates and immediate family only).

Region	Capped travel allowance per delegate	Capped travel allowance for immediate family
Kimberley	\$1000	\$600
Pilbara	\$1000	\$600
Goldfields	\$800	\$500
Midwest	\$700	\$400
Great Southern	\$500	\$300
South West	\$300	\$200
Wheatbelt	\$300	\$200

Please note: All allowances are inclusive of GST. The capped travel allowance per delegate and for immediate family represents the maximum amount that Rural Health West will reimburse for travel only. It is not a general flat rate reimbursement amount, and proof of purchase is required.

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Conditions

- Abstracts, oral presentations and E-posters must not contain any kind of advertising. Individuals and organisations wishing to advertise at the conference should contact the Conference Organisers – Rural Health West email ahc@ruralhealthwest.com.au or 08 6389 4500.
- Abstracts must be the author's own work.
- The invitation to submit an abstract does not constitute an offer to pay travel, accommodation or registration costs associated with the conference. Similarly, no speaker fee is paid to successful presenters. All speakers must register for the conference.
- The Conference Committee reserves the right to allocate abstracts into sessions as they see fit in accordance with the overall program objectives.
- Abstracts that do not include sufficient data may be rejected.

Abstract Enquiries

For all abstract enquiries or if you have not received notification of your abstract results by **9 May 2025**, please contact the Conference Organisers team on ahc@ruralhealthwest.com.au or 6389 4500.

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