



16-18 SEPTEMBER 2026
PAN PACIFIC PERTH

AIMS

NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

FRONTIER PATHOLOGY
INNOVATION | COMMUNITY | COLLABORATION

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

** Please note this is a draft program outline and is subject to change at the discretion of the organising committee**

WEDNESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2026

TIME	SESSION			
8.00am – 9.00am	Registration			
9.00am – 9.30am	Opening Ceremony			
9.30am – 10.30am	Noninvasive prenatal testing: how it is developed and evolved Professor Allen Chan, The Chinese University of Hong Kong			
10.30am – 11.00am	Morning Tea			
THEME	Genomic Advancements in Pathology	Transplantation Case Study (15mins each)	Microbiology	Haematology
11.00am – 11.30am	Statewide Comprehensive Genomic Profiling to Expedite Excellence in Treatment of WA Cancer Patients Cleo Robinson	Understanding the Starting Point: Diagnostic Story of an HCT Candidate Dr Safia Belbachir HLA typing and Unrelated Donor section Dr Dianne De Santis	SPOTFIRE Respiratory Panel Evaluation: At the Point-of-Care and Near the Point-of-Care Todd Pryce	Implementation of CellaVision digital morphology in PathWest regional laboratories Brad Conway

11.30am – 12.00pm		The role of the transplant laboratory in a transplant patient's journey Dr Coral-Ann Almeida	Utility of Xpert for Neisseria gonorrhoeae confirmatory testing Olivia Foti	FSH and PCH on Ph-like B-ALL Rebecca De Kraa
		When a patient needs transfusion support Hayley Brown		
12.00pm – 12.30pm	WA Centre of Excellence for Neurogenetics Mark Davis	FSH – Post transplant care/complications Diane Sutherland	Rapid detection and characterisation of Carbapenemase enzymes in the clinical laboratory Clair Stewart	A structured approach to blood film reporting Matt Wright
12.30pm – 1.30pm	Lunch			
THEME	Transfusion	Microbiology	Anatomical Pathology	Haemostasis
1.30pm – 2.00pm	Red Cell Reference Overview and Interesting Case Review Tanya Cawthorne	Differences and challenges providing a Microbiology service: Remote vs City Paul Healy	HPV Negative HSIL Alina Miranda	Case-based Review of the DDX of Thrombotic Microangiopathy Ross Baker
2.00pm – 2.30pm	Anti-CD38 Neutralisation - A Laboratory's Experience Elle Colace and Elycce Webb	Culture shift: a new rapid diagnostic approach for sepsis care Matthew Payne	Terrible tumours and other oddities at the dissection bench Michael Bushe-Jones	International Standardisation of ADAMTS-13 assays Grace Gilmore
2.30pm – 3.00pm	Governance and policy in transfusion medicine Bradley Webster	Corynebacterium diphtheriae outbreak in WA Daniel Knight and Jade Healy	Fine needle aspiration of a peculiar PEComa presenting in the axillary tail of a female patient Taylah Sanders	TTP Case Study Bridget Hodgkinson
3.00pm – 3.30pm	Afternoon Tea			
3.30pm – 4.30pm	Genetic testing for Prenatal diagnosis of Haemoglobinopathies, Thalassaemia and Haemophilia A. Kerryn Weekes, Thalassaemia and Haemophilia Molecular Reference Laboratory, Monash Medical Centre; 2026 AIMS Travelling Orator			



4.30PM – 5.30PM	Growing red blood cells for therapeutics Dr Becky Griffiths, Australian Red Cross Lifeblood
5.30pm – 7.30pm	Welcome Cocktail Reception

THURSDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2026

TIME	SESSION			
7.30am – 8.30am	Registration			
8.30am – 9.30am	Improving Plasma EBV DNA Analysis for Screening and Management of Nasopharyngeal Cancer Professor Allen Chan, The Chinese University of Hong Kong			
9.30am – 10.30am	It takes a village to raise a child: Omico and precision oncology Associate Professor Mandy Ballinger, University of NSW			
10.30am – 11.00am	Morning Tea			
THEME	Immunology	Forensics	Biochemistry	Free Communications
11.00am – 11.30am	Hereditary Alpha-Tryptasaemia (HaT) Testing at PathWest Naser El-Lagta	Credibility in forensic science: Quality and practice Anna Heavey	Point Of Care Testing Elizabeth Byrnes	Establishing a Statewide Digital Morphology Competency Program for Continuous Monitoring of Haematology Practice in NSW Health Pathology. Karen Collins
				Comparative evaluation of platelet enumeration using automated haematology analysis, Cella Vision DC-1, and manual microscopy Caroline Mwaluko
11.30am – 12.00pm	Pharmacogenetic testing in the new era of personalised medicine	Enhancing Operational Performance in Forensic Science	Primary Aldosteronism Nicola Sawyer	A Tale of two leukaemias: A Case study of two plasma cell leukaemias



	Dr Sam Salman	Penny Cooper & Colby Hymus		Jayson Coulter
				Is there seasonal variation in the diagnosis of acute leukaemia in the Queensland population? Dianne Lovelock
12.00pm – 12.30pm	Peanut allergies Michael O’Sullivan	DNA techniques to investigate cold cases Gavin Turbett	Bilirubin at point of care – meeting clinical needs and delivering positive patient outcomes Sasa Trivic	Abnormal Platelet Activation in Myeloproliferative Neoplasms Ann Wang Antenatal diagnosis of Down syndrome by imaging flow cytometry Daria Buic
12.30pm – 1.30pm	Lunch			
	Free Communications			
	Tip tip – trauma informed paediatric training for pathology collectors Samantha Austin	Longitudinal study of the donation practices of australian blood donors. Lin Fung		Principles of test validation: what is “extensive as necessary”? Leesa Bruggink
1.30pm – 2.50pm	Beyond the tube: structural determinants of pre-analytical quality in rural and indigenous pathology services – a systematic review Elsa chew	Seroprevalence and genotypic characterization of hepatitis B virus infections in the abo blood types in papua new guinea blood donors. Francisca Varpit		A novel liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry method for the simultaneous quantification of kynurenine pathway metabolites validated in two models of brain injury. Md Munnaf Hossen
	Pre-analytical errors in pathology: navigating the landscape in rural, regional, and urban laboratory networks. George john	H-deficient phenotypes, rhesus d variants and their clinical implications for transfusion medicine – a scoping review Borkwei Ed Nignpense		Allostatic load in pregnancy: a panel of cord blood inflammatory and metabolic markers, maternal biological and psychosocial status for the detection of infant neurodevelopmental outcomes Donna Rudd
	Longitudinal development of the infant gut microbiome during the first year of life Yihenew million yeshtila	Deep learning-based multiclass etiologic classification of prolonged aptt using routine clot waveform analysis data Mohammad Altememi		Photoperiod and metabolic syndrome: a population-based analysis Prashant Regmi



	<p>Optimisation of pcr-based detection enhances sensitivity for early-stage respiratory rna virus infections in clinical microbiology laboratories Hamidreza Iranpour</p>	<p>Hierarchical deep learning model for lupus anticoagulant detection from aptt clot waveform analysis Mohammad Altememi</p>	<p>Comparative analysis of serum testosterone, myostatin and hscrp among individuals undergoing different exercise schedule Adeniran Israel</p>
	<p>Behind the brainstem: a rapid molecular diagnosis of a rare case of rhomboencephalitis Aparna Malladi</p>	<p>Clearing up anatomical pathology reporting backlogs Hongmei Mao</p>	<p>Impact of gene polymorphisms of vitamin d receptor (vdr) on 25-hydroxyvitamin-d levels in nepalese adults. Dr Binod Kumar Yadav</p>
	<p>A retrospective analysis of amoebic liver infections at lautoka hospital, fiji, from 2020 to 2024. Khushi Nand</p>	<p>Spatiotemporal profiling of tnbc and the tumor microenvironment via exosomal mirnas Hala Issa</p>	<p>Effects of helicobacter pylori infection on iron metabolism Saad Mohammed Al-Fad'am</p>
	<p>Work ready or lab ready? Rethinking employability capabilities in medical laboratory science program Prajwal Gyawali</p>	<p>Investigating AGO2, a Key Enzyme in the miRNA Pathway, as a Non-Invasive Diagnostic Biomarker for Solid Tumours and Evaluating the Potential of a Combined Panel with Conventional Tumour Markers for Improved Cancer Detection and Tumour Origin Identification. Anila Hashimi</p>	
2.50pm – 3.30pm	Afternoon Tea		
3.30pm – 5.00 pm	AIMS Skills Development Pathway - Panel Presentation		
7.00pm – 11.00pm	NSM Gala Dinner		



FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2026

TIME	SESSION
7.30am – 8.30am	Registration
8.30am – 9.30am	Saal Foley Lecture Mr Paul Schneider
9.30am – 10.30am	Implementation of Next Generation Sequencing for the diagnosis of rare childhood diseases Dr Richard Allcock
10.30am – 11.00am	Morning Tea
11.00am – 11.30am	From Precision Peptides to Diagnostic Translation: Development of the Helitope Anti-CagA Serology Assay Dr Samuel Lundin
11.30am – 12.00pm	WA Emerging Innovator of the Year (2025) Professor Rakesh Veedu, Progenis Pharmaceuticals
12.00pm – 12.30pm	Using Genetically Variant Peptides to inform identification Dr Joel Gummer, ChemCentre
12.30pm – 1.00pm	Panel Discussion - AI and Big Data in Pathology Prof Nicola Armstrong, Dr Alex Jenkins, Dr Jeremy Parry, Dr Sara Suk-Udom
1.00pm – 2.00pm	Closing Address and Lunch

