



Traumatic Brain Injury Conference, NZ

in partnership with the
Laura Fergusson Brain Injury Trust

10 - 11 March 2027
Te Pae, Christchurch, NZ

WEDNESDAY 10 MARCH 2027

Registration Open: 8.00am - 8.30am - Level 1 Foyer, Te Pae Christchurch Convention Centre

Plenary Session One - Waitaki Room

Chairperson: Stacey Mowbray

8.30am	Mihi Whakatau - Welcome
8.40am	Living with TBI Across the Lifespan: Tools for ageing well with TBI A/Prof Christina Ekegren - Invited Keynote Speaker - Associate Professor, Rehabilitation, Ageing and Independent Living (RAIL) Research Centre, Monash University
9.25am	Concussion Essentials: A clinical trial of personalized, multidisciplinary treatment for persisting post-concussion symptoms in children and youth Prof Vicki Anderson - Invited Keynote Speaker - Director, Clinical Sciences Research, Murdoch Children's Research Institute
10.10am	Subclinical traumatic brain injury (sTBI): An overview and future directions Dr Rowena Mobbs - Invited Keynote Speaker - Neurologist, Mater Hospital Sydney

10.55am Morning Tea - Conway Rooms 1-3 & Level 1 Foyer

Concurrent Sessions: Waitaki Room & Conway Rooms 4-5

	Waitaki Room <i>Chairperson: Stacey Mowbray</i>	Conway Room 4 <i>Chairperson: Kirsty MacDonald</i>	Conway Room 5 <i>Chairperson: Leah Teschner</i>
11.30am	National Concussion Guidelines for Youth and Community Sport Natalie Hardaker ACC	Interactive Workshop "Why Children Are Not Just Small Adults" Jane Ryder-Foskett Dr Audrey McKinlay Astech Specialist Rehabilitation Services	Beyond Compensation: Rethinking Dysphagia Rehabilitation After TBI Dist. Prof. Maggie-Lee Huckabee Swaltech
12.00pm	Brain fog and muddy boots: Robbie's recovery and return to farming after concussion. Robbie Clark		Sexuality, Intimacy & Relationships (SIR) after Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI): Development and Pilot Evaluation of the SIR-TBI Screening Tool Rosa Gabites Laura Fergusson Brain Injury Trust
12.30pm	Female RNA Concussion (FeRNAC) Study: Female Concussion Natalie Hardaker ACC	Specialist Paediatric and Adolescent Rehabilitation Services (SPARS) - TBI Pathway for the Tamariki and Rangatahi in Aotearoa NZ Gemma Wilde Starship Hospital Te Whatu Ora	Bringing Brain Injury Rehabilitation Behind Bars: Delivering Interdisciplinary Concussion Rehabilitation in a Prison Setting Jo Fox Sophie Ereckson Laura Fergusson Brain Injury Trust

WEDNESDAY 10 MARCH 2027

1.00pm	Lunch - Conway Rooms 1-3 & Level 1 Foyer		
Plenary Session Two - Waitaki Room		Chairperson: Stacey Mowbray	
2.00pm	Improving Rehabilitation Outcomes for Clients with TBI Michael Frampton - ACC		
2.20pm	Dairy of a Head Injury film, followed by Q&A Nick Worthington		
2.40pm	Room Movement		
Concurrent Sessions: Waitaki Room & Conway Rooms 4-5			
	Waitaki Room <i>Chairperson: Stacey Mowbray</i>	Conway Room 4 <i>Chairperson: Kirsty MacDonald</i>	Conway Room 5 <i>Chairperson: Leah Teschner</i>
2.45pm	Persistent Symptoms Following Concussion: A Treatment Framework Informing Assessment, Conceptualization, and Practical Rehabilitation Interventions Jon Pertab Neurosciences Institute - Intermountain Healthcare (Utah)	Mild traumatic brain injury pathway for children admitted to Starship Hospital with major trauma Rebecca Jamieson Te Whatu Ora/Health NZ	Ageing Well After TBI Sarah Barham Emily (Daughter of Mr A) Laura Fergusson Brain Injury Trust
3.15pm	Hello Brian: Finding Humour, Hope and Healing in Life with Persistent Post-Concussion Symptoms Linda Martin	Who owns cognition? Building an Interdisciplinary Approach to Cognitive Rehabilitation After Paediatric TBI Alex Urquhart National Child Rehabilitation Service Lara Syddall Northern Health School Kate Plaisted National Child Rehab Service	Cultural Safety, Lost in Translation, and Reading the Room in TBI Rehabilitation Leisa Aumua Pou Ārahi Māori Health And Wellbeing Lead Laura Ferguson Brain Injury Trust
3.45pm	Sense of self, resilience and recovery after mild traumatic brain injury Prof Debbie Snell University of Otago Christchurch	Hurdles and highlights: partnering with schools to deliver effective paediatric concussion rehabilitation Penny McGarry Active+ Jenny Andrew Paediatric Therapy Ltd	Supporting Recovery After Traumatic Brain Injury: An Innovative Self-Help Guide for Individuals and Families Dr Bernadette Cassidy New Zealand Spinal Trust
4.15pm	Afternoon Tea - Conway Rooms 1-3 & Level 1 Foyer		

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Concurrent Sessions: Waitaki Room & Conway Rooms 4-5

	Waitaki Room <i>Chairperson: Stacey Mowbray</i>	Conway Room 4 <i>Chairperson: Kirsty MacDonald</i>	Conway Room 5 <i>Chairperson: Leah Teschner</i>
4.45pm	Head Acceleration Events in Adolescent Female Rugby Players Mike Hamlin Lincoln University	Neurodevelopmental and mental health conditions in young people with traumatic brain injury in Aotearoa NZ: A nationwide population study Rebecca Slykerman University Of Auckland	Returning Specialist Brain Injury Rehabilitation to Canterbury: Recovering Closer to Home John McManus Hauora Ability Services (St John of God Hauora Trust)
5.15pm	Enhancing Laboratory-to-Field Alignment of Head Impact Kinematics in Youth Rugby Dr Annette Heward-Swale University Of Canterbury	From the rugby field to classroom. The Nasty Knock, Paeds and Concussion Puri Hauiti Ngā Ahikāpuni "It Starts up Front"	Independence, social connection, and recovery: How do TBI/SCI support services protect and enhance the subjective wellbeing of clients, and what is missing? Pascarn Dickinson Huber Social
5.45pm	Day Close		

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Registration Open: 8.00am - 8.30am - Level 1 Foyer, Te Pae Christchurch Convention Centre

Plenary Session One - Waitaki Room

Chairperson: Stacey Mowbray

8.30am	Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE) as a subtype of dementia: Lessons from Alzheimer's disease Dr Rowena Mobbs - Invited Keynote Speaker - Neurologist, Mater Hospital Sydney
9.30am	Generating and translating evidence to improve outcomes from childhood acquired brain insult Prof Vicki Anderson - Invited Keynote Speaker - Director, Clinical Sciences Research, Murdoch Children's Research Institute
10.30am	<i>Beyond the Stunt: Scott McLean's Story of Injury, Recovery and Resilience</i> <i>Featuring a documentary screening and live Q&A with Scott McLean</i>

11.05am Morning Tea - Conway Rooms 1-3 & Level 1 Foyer

Plenary Session Two - Waitaki Room

Chairperson: Stacey Mowbray

11.35am	Ageing with TBI: Untangling the impacts of ageing versus injury A/Prof Christina Ekegren - Invited Keynote Speaker - Associate Professor, Rehabilitation, Ageing and Independent Living (RAIL) Research Centre, Monash University
12.35pm	Auditory injury following TBI: tinnitus, hyperacusis, hearing loss and APD - presentations, mechanisms, and pathways Duncan Hann - Hann Audiology

1.15pm Lunch - Conway Rooms 1-3 & Level 1 Foyer

Concurrent Sessions: Waitaki Room & Conway Rooms 4-5

	Waitaki Room Chairperson: Stacey Mowbray	Conway Room 4 Chairperson: Pat Hopkins	Conway Room 5 Chairperson: Nicole Vercoe
2.00pm	Beyond neuropsychological assessment: A Six-Step Framework for Cognitive Rehabilitation Following TBI Christine Canty University Of Otago	AI in Healthcare in Aotearoa Rosie Dobson Mātauranga Hauora Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences	The impact of Traumatic Brain Injury in Family Violence Tee Whiting Te Whatu Ora Te Mataua A Maui
2.30pm	He Haerenga Whakaora: Supporting Executive Recovery After Severe TBI Through Interdisciplinary Practice Christine Canty University Of Otago	Expanding the World of Cognitive Rehabilitation: What we can learn from a digital approach Laurie Miller University Of Sydney	Strangulation: Contextualising brain injury advice for women with experiences of domestic, family and sexual violence Courtney Artridge Women's Health Nsw
3.00pm	Assessment and treatment in Traumatic Brain Injury with the co-occurrence of Autism and/or Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder Leanne Mathews Laura Fergusson Brain Injury Trust Nadine Stephenson Minded Psychology	Thinking aloud about dynamic assessment and digital communication after TBI Sheree Lu The University Of Technology Sydney	Ka Mua, Ka Muri: Exploring Mātauranga Māori Foundations for Healing Traumatic Brain Injury Tania Kahika-Foote Massey University

3.30pm	Afternoon Tea - Conway Rooms 1-3 & Level 1 Foyer
Plenary Session Three - Waitaki Room	
Chairperson: Stacey Mowbray	
4.00pm	Life After Rehabilitation: Rebuilding Purpose, Identity and Belonging After Brain Injury Emma Beer The Brain Injury Group
4.20pm	Relational ways of working to enhance collaboration and engagement in rehabilitation Helena Lister ABI Rehabilitation
4.40pm	Recovery after Severe Traumatic Brain Injury: Return to Life and Work as a Physiotherapist Ché Phillips Wilkes Physiotherapy
5.00pm	Conference Close

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