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 *Chairperson: Stacey Mowbray*	Conway Room 4 *Chairperson: Kirsty MacDonald*	Conway Room 5 *Chairperson: Leah Teschner*
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 ***Chairperson: Stacey Mowbray***	**Conway Room 4** ***Chairperson: Kirsty MacDonald***	**Conway Room 5** ***Chairperson: Leah Teschner***
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** Starship Hospital, Te Whatu Ora/ Health NZ **Dr Jimmy Chong** Starship Hospital, 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**

MORNING & AFTERNOON TEA BREAK SPONSORS

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Concurrent Sessions: Waitaki Room & Conway Rooms 4-5			
	Waitaki Room ***Chairperson: Stacey Mowbray***	**Conway Room 4** ***Chairperson: Kirsty MacDonald***	**Conway Room 5** ***Chairperson: Leah Teschner***
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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THURSDAY 11 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	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	***Beyond the Stunt: Scott McLean's Story of Injury, Recovery and Resilience*** *Featuring a documentary screening and live Q&A with Scott McLean*
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

THURSDAY 11 MARCH 2027

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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