



Herston Health Precinct Symposium 2025

Advancing Health Together

1–3 September 2025

Education Centre
Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital

WELCOME

On behalf of the Symposium Steering Committee, it is my pleasure to release the program for the Herston Health Precinct Symposium 2025.

The theme of this year’s Symposium is *Advancing Health Together*, reflecting the partnerships and research collaborations across the 30+ health facilities, medical research institutes, universities and organisations that comprise the Herston Health Precinct. The aim of this three-day event is to showcase and celebrate research excellence on the Herston campus that improves health outcomes for our community, both locally and globally.

Thank you to the presenters, sponsors and partner organisations for making this event possible.

We look forward to welcoming you to this annual research event!



A/Prof Joel Dulhunty
Director of Research
Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital
Metro North Health

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Keynote presenters



Jessica Taylor
Chief Executive Officer
QENDO



A/Prof Bridget Barber
Head, Clinical Malaria Group
QIMR Berghofer
Infectious Diseases Physician, RBWH



Prof Sebastian Probst
Professor of Tissue Viability and
Wound Care
Geneva School of Health Sciences
HES-SO University of Applied Sciences
and Arts, Western Switzerland



Dr Bevan Koopman
Health Search Team Leader
Australian e-Health Research Centre
CSIRO



Prof Gianluca Demartini
Professor in Data Science
ARC Future Fellow
The University of Queensland



Dr Shea Spierings
Director
Institute of Urban Indigenous Health
Network Knowledge and Research Centre

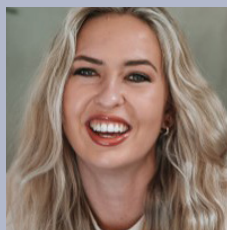


Prof Leonie Callaway
Director of Research
Women’s and Newborn Services
Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital

Spotlight presenters



Prof Evonne Miller
Director
Design Lab
Queensland University of
Technology



Anja Christoffersen
Consumer Researcher
Royal Brisbane and Women’s
Hospital
Metro North Health



Dr Kelsey Pateman
Principal Research Fellow
Allied Health
Royal Brisbane and Women’s
Hospital



Dr Deanne August
Metro North Health Clinician
Research Fellow
Conjoint Research Fellow
RBWH / Griffith University



Prof Roslyn Francis
Director
Herston Imaging Research
Facility



Prof Andrew Martin
Professor of Innovative
Clinical Trials
The University of Queensland



Prof Jed Duff
Chair of Nursing, RBWH
Professor, Centre for Healthcare
Transformation, QUT

Steering Committee

Joel Dulhunty (Co-Chair), Sue Taylor (Co-Chair), Loretta Atkinson, Gillian Bertram, Roslyn Boland, Allison Brown, Gwenda Chapman, Anja Christoffersen, David Copland, Mathilde Desselle, Julia Hocking, Maxine Hooper, Sue Laracy, Nick Hong Seng Lee, Jeffrey Lipman, Roxanne Machen, Silvia Manzanero, Nicole Marsh, Claire McCafferty, Elizabeth McCourt, Helen McKenzie, Leah Milburn-Walker, Stephanie Miller, Kylie Mueller, Becca Murray, Kelsey Pateman, Elizabeth Powell, Marita Prior, Chris Shannon, Kirsten Spann, Leah Svenson and Dale Trevor.

Thank you to our sponsors:



Australian e-Health
Research Centre



HERSTON
HEALTH PRECINCT



QIMR
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THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA



Centre for
Immunology
and Infection
Control

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TIME		EVENT	PRESENTER
8.30 – 9.00am		Networking and coffee	
SESSION ONE		Compassion in Practice: Community Care and Consumer Engagement	Session Chair: Dale Trevor, Consumer Researcher, Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital (RBWH) / Metro North Health
9.00 – 9.05am		Acknowledgement of Country Opening remarks by Session Chair	Roslyn Boland, Director of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, RBWH Dale Trevor, Consumer Researcher, RBWH / Metro North Health
9.05 – 9.25am	KEYNOTE	Compassion as a catalyst: redesigning care through community and consumer partnership	Jessica Taylor, Chief Executive Officer, QENDO
9.25 – 9.35am		Implementing Mental Health Hospital in the Home at the Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital	Dr Elizabeth Eggins, Manager, Metro North Mental Health Data Analytics and Evaluation
9.35 – 9.45am		Facilitating equitable access to a dietitian-led obesity treatment services using co-design	Carrie-Anne Lewis, Research Coordinator, Nutrition and Dietetics, RBWH
9.45 – 9.55am		Prevalence of chemical restraint use in hospital care: a consensus-driven cross-sectional study	A/Prof Chris Freeman, Conjoint Associate Professor of Safe and Effective Medication Research, The University of Queensland / Metro North Health
9.55 – 10.05am	SPOTLIGHT	Empathy in action: six principles for compassionate co-design in healthcare	Prof Evonne Miller, Director, Queensland University of Technology (QUT) Design Lab
10.05 – 10.15am		Co-design of a presurgical intervention for men treated with prostate cancer (CODE study)	Dr Natasha Roberts, Conjoint Nursing Clinical Research Fellow, Surgical Treatment and Rehabilitation Service (STARS) Education and Research Alliance, Metro North Health / UQ
10.15 – 10.25am		Postoperative functional recovery in older adults following elective noncardiac surgery: a prospective cohort study	Dr Andrea Taylor, Nurse Manager Researcher, Surgical and Perioperative Services, RBWH
10.25 – 10.30am		Closing remarks by Session Chair	Dale Trevor, Consumer Researcher, RBWH / Metro North Health
10.30 – 11.00am		Morning tea and poster gallery presentations	

TIME		EVENT	PRESENTER
SESSION TWO		Synergy in Action: The Power of Multidisciplinary Research This session is brought to you by QIMR Berghofer	Session Chair: Prof Elizabeth Powell , Clinical Director, QIMR Berghofer
11.00 – 11.05am		Opening remarks by Session Chair	Prof Elizabeth Powell , Clinical Director, QIMR Berghofer
11.05 – 11.25am	KEYNOTE	Evaluating adjunctive ruxolitinib to attenuate the inflammatory response in volunteers infected with Plasmodium falciparum	A/Prof Bridget Barber , Head, Clinical Malaria Group, QIMR Berghofer and Infectious Diseases Physician, RBWH
11.25 – 11.35am		Using a multi-professional mobility improvement collaborative to improve patient activity in Metro North medical wards	Dr Julie Adsett , Metro North Health Clinician Research Fellow and Physiotherapist, RBWH
11.35 – 11.45am		Use of MRI-guided transcranial focused ultrasound neurostimulation for obsessive-compulsive disorder	Dr Shreyas Honavar , Junior House Officer, RBWH
11.45 – 11.55am		Indwelling urinary catheter securement knowledge, beliefs, and clinical practices: a national online survey of Australian multidisciplinary clinicians	Jane Wickins , PhD candidate (UQ) and Clinical Nurse, The Prince Charles Hospital
11.55 – 12.05PM	SPOTLIGHT	Multidisciplinary research: putting people at the centre	Anja Christoffersen , Consumer Researcher, RBWH / Metro North Health, and Dr Kelsey Pateman , Principal Research Fellow, Allied Health, RBWH
12.05 – 12.15pm		Effects of increasing tazobactam dose on the pharmacodynamics of piperacillin against extended-spectrum beta-lactamase (EsβL)-producing Escherichia coli isolates	Getnet Assefa , PhD candidate, UQ Centre for Clinical Research
12.15 – 12.25pm		Variant in complement factor B is associated with perianal disease in ulcerative colitis	Dr Rina Kumar , Research Officer, Gut Health Lab, QIMR Berghofer
12.25 – 12.30pm		Closing remarks by Session Chair	Prof Elizabeth Powell , Clinical Director, QIMR Berghofer
12.30 – 1.00pm		Lunch and poster gallery presentations	
1.00 – 2.00pm		Panel discussion Guided by Evidence: A Case Study in Trauma Care and Recovery Chair: Prof Michael Schuetz , Director, Jamieson Trauma Institute	Glen Bennett , RBWH Foundation Ambassador Adj A/Prof Michael Handy , Assistant Nursing Director, Trauma Service, RBWH Dr Rebekah Young , Trauma Service Fellow, RBWH Prof Pip Logan , Co-Director, STARS Education and Research Alliance, Metro North Health/UQ Prof Dylan Flaws , Psychiatrist, Mental Health Services, Metro North Health
2.00 – 3.00pm		Afternoon tea, poster presentations and institute tours	


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TIME	EVENT		PRESENTER
8.30 – 9.00am	Networking and coffee		
SESSION ONE	Wound and Trauma Care: Innovations and Insights across Disciplines This session is brought to you by Griffith University		Session Chair: Prof Claire Rickard, Conjoint Professor of Infection Prevention and Vascular Access, Metro North Health / UQ
9.00 – 9.05am	Acknowledgement of Country and opening remarks by Session Chair		Prof Claire Rickard, Conjoint Professor of Infection Prevention and Vascular Access, Metro North Health/UQ
9.05 – 9.25am	KEYNOTE	Care that connects: putting the person first in wound healing	Prof Sebastian Probst, Professor of Tissue Viability and Wound Care, Geneva School of Health Sciences, HES-SO University of Applied Sciences and Arts, Western Switzerland
9.25 – 9.35am		Should we implement vascular access teams? Results from a randomised controlled trial	Prof Nicole Marsh, Director, Nursing and Midwifery Research Centre, RBWH
9.35 – 9.45am		Stopping the spread: ex vivo insights into microbial migration and haemostatic defence	Dr Elise Pelzer, Senior Lecturer, Centre for Immunology and Infection Control, QUT
9.45 – 9.55am		Stepping up standards: evaluating Ottawa Ankle Rule use across clinicians for ankle trauma in a tertiary emergency department	Dr Aditya Rao, Senior House Officer, RBWH
9.55 – 10.05am	SPOTLIGHT	Optimal skin care for the smallest and sickest patients with innovations and key stakeholder insights	Dr Deanne August, Metro North Health Clinician Research Fellow and Conjoint Research Fellow, RBWH / Griffith University
10.05 – 10.15am		Is balanced transfusion being achieved for trauma patients at the Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital Emergency and Trauma Centre?	Anna Zipf, Clinical Pharmacist, RBWH
10.15 – 10.25am		Incidence and prevalence of complicated inflammatory bowel disease in Queensland, Australia: a population-based cohort study	Dr George Tambakis, Inflammatory Bowel Disease Fellow, Department of Gastroenterology, RBWH
10.25 – 10.30am		Closing remarks by Session Chair	Prof Claire Rickard, Conjoint Professor of Infection Prevention and Vascular Access, Metro North Health / UQ
10.30 – 11.00am	Morning tea and poster gallery presentations		

TIME		EVENT	PRESENTER
SESSION TWO		Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technologies: Unlocking the Future This session is brought to you by the Australian e-Health Research Centre (AEHRC), CSIRO	Session Chair: Dr Jason Dowling , Research Team Leader, Medical Imaging Analysis, AEHRC, CSIRO
11.00 – 11.05am		Opening remarks by Session Chair	Dr Jason Dowling , Research Team Leader, Medical Imaging Analysis, AEHRC, CSIRO
11.05 – 11.25am	KEYNOTE	Building ‘Oscar’: a precision medicine search engine for paediatric oncology	Dr Bevan Koopman , Health Search Team Leader, AEHRC, CSIRO
11.25 – 11.35am		‘Pictures of PAIN’: artificial intelligence interpretations of pictures from people living with chronic pain	Dr David Ireland , Senior Research Scientist, AEHRC, CSIRO
11.35 – 11.45am		Co-design of virtual reality-based simulations with people with brain injury, clinicians and technology developers for use in inpatient rehabilitation	Dr Emmah Doig , Occupational Therapy Conjoint Senior Research Fellow, STARS Education and Research Alliance, Metro North Health / UQ
11.45 – 11.55am		Characterising the cell membrane composition to develop new peptide therapeutics	Dr Aurélie Benfield , Postdoctoral Research Fellow, QUT
11.55 – 12.05pm	SPOTLIGHT	Precision imaging	Prof Roslyn Francis , Director, Herston Imaging Research Facility
12.05 – 12.15pm		Integrating 3D scanning and modelling technologies in the comprehensive management of facial scars	Dr Andrea McKittrick , Advanced Occupational Therapist (Burns), RBWH
12.15 – 12.25pm		Prediction of baseplate stability in reverse shoulder arthroplasty	Hamid Jarrah , Higher Degree Researcher, QUT
12.25 – 12.30pm		Closing remarks by Session Chair	Dr Jason Dowling , Research Team Leader, Medical Imaging Analysis, AEHRC, CSIRO
12.30 – 1.00pm		Lunch and poster gallery presentations	
1.00 – 2.00pm		The Great Debate Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare Research: Saviour or Job Thief? Chair: Prof Ian Scott , Director of Internal Medicine and Clinical Epidemiology, The Princess Alexandra Hospital	Affirmative team (Saviour): Dr Paul Lane , Medical Director, Safety Quality and Innovation, The Prince Charles Hospital Dr Maria Antico , Postdoctoral Research Fellow, AEHRC, CSIRO Negative team (Job thief): Louise D’Allura , Learning Coordinator, Metro North Research Dr Hashim Abdeen , Medical Administration Registrar, RBWH
2.00 – 3.00pm		Afternoon tea, poster presentations and institute tours	

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TIME	EVENT		PRESENTER
8.30 – 9.00am	Networking and coffee		
SESSION ONE	Optimising Healthcare: Health Economics, Linked Data and Innovative Trial Design This session is brought to you by The University of Queensland (UQ)		Session Chair: Dr Tanya Smyth, Research Fellow, Jamieson Trauma Institute
9.00 – 9.05am	Acknowledgement of Country and opening remarks by Session Chair		Dr Tanya Smyth, Research Fellow, Jamieson Trauma Institute
9.05 – 9.25am	KEYNOTE	Leveraging machine learning for clinical information extraction	Prof Gianluca Demartini, Professor in Data Science and ARC Future Fellow, UQ
9.25 – 9.35am	Measuring what matters: quality indicators to assess hospital nutrition and food services		Dr Adrienne Young, Research Coordinator, Dietetics and Food Services, RBWH
9.35 – 9.45am	Value-based trauma care: understanding the cost, preliminary effect, and implementation of an innovative specialist-led multidisciplinary trauma admitting service		Jacelle Warren, Statistical Analyst, Jamieson Trauma Institute, Metro North Health
9.45 – 9.55am	Sepsis serum proteomics and human cardiac organoids identify proteins associated with cardiac dysfunction and recovery with BETi		Dr Simon Foster, Team Head, Cardiac Drug Discovery Lab, QIMR Berghofer, and Dr Harley Robinson, Research Officer, Cardiac Drug Discovery Lab, QIMR Berghofer
9.55 – 10.05am	SPOTLIGHT	Embedding innovation and efficiency in trials research	Prof Andrew Martin, Professor of Innovative Clinical Trials Lead, Clinical Trials Capability (ULTRA) program, UQ
10.05 – 10.15am	My GP told me my cholesterol was fine! A retrospective audit of 3-month lipid follow-up post-acute coronary syndrome		Stella Setiyawan, Advanced Training Resident Pharmacist, Heart Support Service, RBWH
10.15 – 10.25am	An innovative system to test the direct delivery of nebulised therapeutics to the in vitro human airway		Dr Elizabeth Pharo, Research Scientist, CSIRO
10.25 – 10.30am	Closing remarks by Session Chair		Dr Tanya Smyth, Research Fellow, Jamieson Trauma Institute
10.30 – 11.00am	Morning tea and poster gallery presentations		
SESSION TWO	Making Research Matter: Knowledge Translation and System Improvement This session is brought to you by Queensland University of Technology (QUT)		Session Chair: Prof Kirsten Spann, Director, Centre for Immunology and Infection Control, QUT
11.00 – 11.05am	Opening remarks by Session Chair		Prof Kirsten Spann, Director, Centre for Immunology and Infection Control, QUT
11.05 – 11.25am	KEYNOTE	Custodianship and collaboration: advancing urban Indigenous health through impactful research	Dr Shea Spierings, Director, Institute of Urban Indigenous Health Network Knowledge and Research Centre

TIME	EVENT		PRESENTER
11.25 – 11.35am	Evaluating the Tertiary Obesity Multidisciplinary Service (TOMS): enhancing diabetes management and surgical readiness through integrated care		Caitlin Merz, Clinical Pharmacist, RBWH
11.35 – 11.45am	Post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms specific to parents in the neonatal intensive care unit		Lisa McKeown, Clinical Research Manager, Women’s and Newborn Services, RBWH
11.45 – 11.55am	Gaining strength while losing weight: functional improvements when on a very low energy diet		William Beningfield, Physiotherapist, RBWH
11.55 – 12.05pm	SPOTLIGHT	Putting a spotlight on pragmatism in implementation trials	Prof Jed Duff, Chair of Nursing, RBWH, and Professor, Centre for Healthcare Transformation, QUT
12.05 – 12.15pm	Feasibility and preliminary outcomes of a microbiota-targeted dietary intervention to prevent gestational diabetes: the Healthy Gut Diet pilot randomised controlled trial		Hannah O’Connor, Dietitian, RBWH, and PhD candidate, UQ
12.15 – 12.25pm	Evaluation of a Youth Step Up Step Down model of service with embedded dialectical behaviour therapy		Sharon Gordon, Team Leader, Youth Step Up Step Down, Mental Health Services, Metro North Health
12.25 – 12.30pm	Closing remarks by Session Chair		Prof Kirsten Spann, Director, Centre for Immunology and Infection Control, QUT
12.30 – 1.00pm	Lunch and poster gallery presentations		
1.00 – 1.30pm	SYMPOSIUM KEYNOTE	Advancing Health Together	Prof Leonie Callaway Director of Research Women’s and Newborn Services, RBWH 
1.30 – 2.00pm	AWARD CEREMONY	<div><div>Awards</div><div>Early Career Research Award Best Translational Research Award Best Clinical Research Award Best Discovery & Innovation Research Award Consumer Partnership Research Award</div><div>Higher Degree Research Award Allied Health Research Award Nursing and Midwifery Research Award Best Poster Research Award</div></div> <div>Closing remarks</div>	<div>Session Chairs: A/Prof Joel Dulhunty, Director of Research, RBWH and Prof Nicole Marsh, Director, Nursing and Midwifery Research Centre, RBWH</div> <div>Adj Prof Jackie Hanson, Chief Executive, Metro North Health</div>
2.00 – 3.00pm	Networking and afternoon tea		