



# 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

[REGISTER HERE](#)

## 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

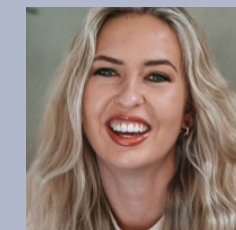


**Prof Leonie Callaway**  
Director of Research  
Women's and Newborn Services  
Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital

## 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:



TIME		EVENT	PRESENTER
8.30 – 9.00am		Networking and coffee	
<b>SESSION ONE</b>		<b>Compassion in Practice: Community Care and Consumer Engagement</b>	<b>Session Chair: Dale Trevor</b> , Consumer Researcher, Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital (RBWH) / Metro North Health
9.00 – 9.05am		Acknowledgement of Country Opening remarks by Session Chair	<b>Roslyn Boland</b> , Director of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, RBWH <b>Dale Trevor</b> , Consumer Researcher, RBWH / Metro North Health
9.05 – 9.25am	<b>KEYNOTE</b>	<b>Compassion as a catalyst: redesigning care through community and consumer partnership</b>	<b>Jessica Taylor</b> , Chief Executive Officer, QENDO
9.25 – 9.35am		Implementing Mental Health Hospital in the Home at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital	<b>Dr Elizabeth Eggins</b> , 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	<b>Carrie-Anne Lewis</b> , Research Coordinator, Nutrition and Dietetics, RBWH
9.45 – 9.55am		Prevalence of chemical restraint use in hospital care: a consensus-driven cross-sectional study	<b>A/Prof Chris Freeman</b> , Conjoint Associate Professor of Safe and Effective Medication Research, The University of Queensland / Metro North Health
9.55 – 10.05am	<b>SPOTLIGHT</b>	<b>Empathy in action: six principles for compassionate co-design in healthcare</b>	<b>Prof Evonne Miller</b> , 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)	<b>Dr Natasha Roberts</b> , 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	<b>Dr Andrea Taylor</b> , Nurse Manager Researcher, Surgical and Perioperative Services, RBWH
10.25 – 10.30am		Closing remarks by Session Chair	<b>Dale Trevor</b> , Consumer Researcher, RBWH / Metro North Health
10.30 – 11.00am		Morning tea and poster gallery presentations	


TIME	EVENT	PRESENTER
<b>SESSION TWO</b>	<b>Synergy in Action: The Power of Multidisciplinary Research</b> This session is brought to you by QIMR Berghofer	<b>Session Chair: Prof Elizabeth Powell</b> , Clinical Director, QIMR Berghofer
11.00 – 11.05am	Opening remarks by Session Chair	<b>Prof Elizabeth Powell</b> , Clinical Director, QIMR Berghofer
11.05 – 11.25am	<b>KEYNOTE</b> <b>Evaluating adjunctive ruxolitinib to attenuate the inflammatory response in volunteers infected with Plasmodium falciparum</b>	<b>A/Prof Bridget Barber</b> , 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	<b>Dr Julie Adsett</b> , 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	<b>Dr Shreyas Honavar</b> , 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	<b>Jane Wickins</b> , PhD candidate (UQ) and Clinical Nurse, The Prince Charles Hospital
11.55 – 12.05PM	<b>SPOTLIGHT</b> <b>Multidisciplinary research: putting people at the centre</b>	<b>Anja Christoffersen</b> , Consumer Researcher, RBWH / Metro North Health, and <b>Dr Kelsey Pateman</b> , 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	<b>Getnet Assefa</b> , PhD candidate, UQ Centre for Clinical Research
12.15 – 12.25pm	Variant in complement factor B is associated with perianal disease in ulcerative colitis	<b>Dr Rina Kumar</b> , Research Officer, Gut Health Lab, QIMR Berghofer
12.25 – 12.30pm	Closing remarks by Session Chair	<b>Prof Elizabeth Powell</b> , Clinical Director, QIMR Berghofer
12.30 – 1.00pm	<b>Lunch and poster gallery presentations</b>	
1.00 – 2.00pm	<b>Panel discussion</b> <b>Guided by Evidence: A Case Study in Trauma Care and Recovery</b> <b>Chair: Prof Michael Schuetz</b> , Director, Jamieson Trauma Institute	<b>Glen Bennett</b> , RBWH Foundation Ambassador <b>Adj A/Prof Michael Handy</b> , Assistant Nursing Director, Trauma Service, RBWH <b>Dr Rebekah Young</b> , Trauma Service Fellow, RBWH <b>Prof Pip Logan</b> , Co-Director, STARS Education and Research Alliance, Metro North Health/UQ <b>Prof Dylan Flaws</b> , Psychiatrist, Mental Health Services, Metro North Health
2.00 – 3.00pm	<b>Afternoon tea, poster presentations and institute tours</b>	

[VIEW WEBINAR HERE >](#)

TIME	EVENT	PRESENTER
8.30 – 9.00am	Networking and coffee	
<b>SESSION ONE</b>	<b>Wound and Trauma Care: Innovations and Insights across Disciplines</b> This session is brought to you by Griffith University	<b>Session Chair: Prof Claire Rickard</b> , 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	<b>Prof Claire Rickard</b> , Conjoint Professor of Infection Prevention and Vascular Access, Metro North Health/UQ
9.05 – 9.25am	<b>KEYNOTE</b> <b>Care that connects: putting the person first in wound healing</b>	<b>Prof Sebastian Probst</b> , 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	<b>Prof Nicole Marsh</b> , Director, Nursing and Midwifery Research Centre, RBWH
9.35 – 9.45am	Stopping the spread: ex vivo insights into microbial migration and haemostatic defence	<b>Dr Elise Pelzer</b> , 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	<b>Dr Aditya Rao</b> , Senior House Officer, RBWH
9.55 – 10.05am	<b>SPOTLIGHT</b> <b>Optimal skin care for the smallest and sickest patients with innovations and key stakeholder insights</b>	<b>Dr Deanne August</b> , 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?	<b>Anna Zipf</b> , Clinical Pharmacist, RBWH
10.15 – 10.25am	Incidence and prevalence of complicated inflammatory bowel disease in Queensland, Australia: a population-based cohort study	<b>Dr George Tambakis</b> , Inflammatory Bowel Disease Fellow, Department of Gastroenterology, RBWH
10.25 – 10.30am	Closing remarks by Session Chair	<b>Prof Claire Rickard</b> , 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
<b>SESSION TWO</b>	<b>Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technologies: Unlocking the Future</b> This session is brought to you by the Australian e-Health Research Centre (AEHRC), CSIRO	<b>Session Chair: Dr Jason Dowling</b> , Research Team Leader, Medical Imaging Analysis, AEHRC, CSIRO
11.00 – 11.05am	Opening remarks by Session Chair	<b>Dr Jason Dowling</b> , Research Team Leader, Medical Imaging Analysis, AEHRC, CSIRO
11.05 – 11.25am	<b>KEYNOTE</b> <b>Building 'Oscar': a precision medicine search engine for paediatric oncology</b>	<b>Dr Bevan Koopman</b> , Health Search Team Leader, AEHRC, CSIRO
11.25 – 11.35am	'Pictures of PAIN': artificial intelligence interpretations of pictures from people living with chronic pain	<b>Dr David Ireland</b> , 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	<b>Dr Emmah Doig</b> , 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	<b>Dr Aurélie Benfield</b> , Postdoctoral Research Fellow, QUT
11.55 – 12.05pm	<b>SPOTLIGHT</b> <b>Precision imaging</b>	<b>Prof Roslyn Francis</b> , Director, Herston Imaging Research Facility
12.05 – 12.15pm	Integrating 3D scanning and modelling technologies in the comprehensive management of facial scars	<b>Dr Andrea McKittrick</b> , Advanced Occupational Therapist (Burns), RBWH
12.15 – 12.25pm	Prediction of baseplate stability in reverse shoulder arthroplasty	<b>Hamid Jarrah</b> , Higher Degree Researcher, QUT
12.25 – 12.30pm	Closing remarks by Session Chair	<b>Dr Jason Dowling</b> , Research Team Leader, Medical Imaging Analysis, AEHRC, CSIRO
12.30 – 1.00pm	<b>Lunch and poster gallery presentations</b>	
1.00 – 2.00pm	<b>The Great Debate</b> <b>Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare Research: Saviour or Job Thief?</b> <b>Chair: Prof Ian Scott</b> , Clinical Consultant in AI, Metro South Digital Health and Informatics; Professorial Research Fellow, Queensland Digital Health Centre	<b>Affirmative team (Saviour):</b> <b>Dr Paul Lane</b> , Medical Director, Safety Quality and Innovation, The Prince Charles Hospital <b>Dr Maria Antico</b> , Postdoctoral Research Fellow, AEHRC, CSIRO <b>Negative team (Job thief):</b> <b>Louise D'Allura</b> , Learning Coordinator, Metro North Research <b>Dr Hashim Abdeen</b> , Medical Administration Registrar, RBWH
2.00 – 3.00pm	<b>Afternoon tea, poster presentations and institute tours</b>	

TIME	EVENT	PRESENTER
8.30 – 9.00am	Networking and coffee	
<b>SESSION ONE</b>	<b>Optimising Healthcare: Health Economics, Linked Data and Innovative Trial Design</b> This session is brought to you by The University of Queensland (UQ)	<b>Session Chair: Dr Tanya Smyth</b> , Research Fellow, Jamieson Trauma Institute
9.00 – 9.05am	Acknowledgement of Country and opening remarks by Session Chair	<b>Dr Tanya Smyth</b> , Research Fellow, Jamieson Trauma Institute
9.05 – 9.25am	<b>KEYNOTE</b> <b>Leveraging machine learning for clinical information extraction</b>	<b>Prof Gianluca Demartini</b> , 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	<b>Dr Adrienne Young</b> , 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	<b>Jacelle Warren</b> , 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	<b>Dr Simon Foster</b> , Team Head, Cardiac Drug Discovery Lab, QIMR Berghofer, and <b>Dr Harley Robinson</b> , Research Officer, Cardiac Drug Discovery Lab, QIMR Berghofer
9.55 – 10.05am	<b>SPOTLIGHT</b> <b>Embedding innovation and efficiency in trials research</b>	<b>Prof Andrew Martin</b> , 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	<b>Stella Setiyawan</b> , 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	<b>Dr Elizabeth Pharo</b> , Research Scientist, CSIRO
10.25 – 10.30am	Closing remarks by Session Chair	<b>Dr Tanya Smyth</b> , Research Fellow, Jamieson Trauma Institute
10.30 – 11.00am	Morning tea and poster gallery presentations	
<b>SESSION TWO</b>	<b>Making Research Matter: Knowledge Translation and System Improvement</b> This session is brought to you by Queensland University of Technology (QUT)	<b>Session Chair: Prof Kirsten Spann</b> , Director, Centre for Immunology and Infection Control, QUT
11.00 – 11.05am	Opening remarks by Session Chair	<b>Prof Kirsten Spann</b> , Director, Centre for Immunology and Infection Control, QUT
11.05 – 11.25am	<b>KEYNOTE</b> <b>Custodianship and collaboration: advancing urban Indigenous health through impactful research</b>	<b>Dr Shea Spierings</b> , 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		<b>Caitlin Merz</b> , Clinical Pharmacist, RBWH
11.35 – 11.45am	Post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms specific to parents in the neonatal intensive care unit		<b>Lisa McKeown</b> , 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		<b>William Beningfield</b> , Physiotherapist, RBWH
11.55 – 12.05pm	<b>SPOTLIGHT</b>	<b>Putting a spotlight on pragmatism in implementation trials</b>	<b>Prof Jed Duff</b> , 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		<b>Hannah O'Connor</b> , 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		<b>Sharon Gordon</b> , Team Leader, Youth Step Up Step Down, Mental Health Services, Metro North Health
12.25 – 12.30pm	Closing remarks by Session Chair		<b>Prof Kirsten Spann</b> , Director, Centre for Immunology and Infection Control, QUT
12.30 – 1.00pm	<b>Lunch and poster gallery presentations</b>		
1.00 – 1.30pm	<b>SYMPOSIUM KEYNOTE</b>	<b>Advancing Health Together</b>	<b>Prof Leonie Callaway</b> Director of Research Women's and Newborn Services, RBWH 
1.30 – 2.00pm	<b>AWARD CEREMONY</b>	<b>Awards</b> Early Career Research Award Best Translational Research Award Best Clinical Research Award Best Discovery & Innovation Research Award Consumer Partnership Research Award  <b>Closing remarks</b>	<b>Higher Degree Research Award</b> <b>Allied Health Research Award</b> <b>Nursing and Midwifery Research Award</b> <b>Best Poster Research Award</b>  <b>Session Chairs: A/Prof Joel Dulhunty</b> , Director of Research, RBWH and <b>Prof Nicole Marsh</b> , Director, Nursing and Midwifery Research Centre, RBWH  <b>Adj Prof Jackie Hanson</b> , Chief Executive, Metro North Health
2.00 – 3.00pm	<b>Networking and afternoon tea</b>		