



2025 National Conference

23 to 24 October 2025

Inspiration and Education Leads to Innovation

BRISBANE

Pullman Hotel

PROGRAM



Thursday
23rd October

Pullman Hotel King George Square Brisbane
Connaught Room



07:30-08:30 Registration Open (Tea & coffee available)

08:30-08:35 **Conference Introduction and Acknowledgement of Country**
Lesleigh Winks, QLD Branch TNA President

08:35-09:20 **Donor Heart Preservation - End of the Ice Age**
Keynote Speaker, Professor David McGiffin, Honorary Cardiac Surgeon

Session 1 Donor Derived Viruses & Managing Infection in Solid Organ Transplant Recipients
Chairperson - Maree Jarrett

09:20-09:40 **Consulting on Rare & Exotic Infections in Solid Organ Donors**
Dr Lana Sundac Infectious Diseases Physician, Princess Alexandra Hospital

09:40-10:00 **Recipients of High Viral Risk Donors- What is the follow up?**
Dr Caroline Tallis, Hepatologist, Princess Alexandra Hospital

10:00-10:20 **Donor Derived Infections Excluded from Organ Acceptance**
Dr Kanthi Vemuri, Infectious Disease Physician, The Prince Charles Hospital

10:20-10:30 **Session Q & A**

10:30-10:50 Morning Tea (Trade Exhibition & Posters)

10:50-11:00 **GOLD SPONSOR**
Presentation by Astellas



Session 2 Skin Cancer in Queensland: The Harsh Facts for the Solid Organ Transplant Population
Chairperson - Lorraine Butner

11:00-11:20 **Skin Cancer Diagnosis & Management in Solid Organ Transplantation**
Professor Kiarash Khosrotehrani, Transplant Dermatologist, Princess Alexandra Hospital & The Prince Charles Hospital

11:20-11:40 **Skin Cancer- A Transplant Patient's Journey - Can We Do Better?**
Professor Nikky Isbel, Nephrologist, Princess Alexandra Hospital

11:40-12:00 **What's on the Horizon - Skin Cancer Treatment**
A/Prof James Wells, Immunologist, Ian Frazer Institute

12:00-12:10 **Session Q & A**

12:10-12:30 **Coronial Role of Organ Donation & Donor Assessments**
Coroner Melinda Zerner

12:30-12:35 **Session Q & A**

12:35-13:20 Lunch (Trade Exhibition & Posters)

Thursday
23rd October

Pullman Hotel King George Square Brisbane
**King George Room and
Connaught Room**



Session 3

Breakout Sessions

King George Room
CARDIOTHORACIC
Chairperson: Ruby Geddes

Connaught Room
ABDOMINAL
Chairperson: Fiona Egan

13:20-13:40 Nurse Practitioner Model of Care
NP Abbey Tahi, Heart Transplant, The Prince Charles Hospital

From the Frail to Obese - What is: Pre-habilitation?
Dr Melita Andelkovic, Hepatologist and Liver Transplant Physician, Princess Alexandra Hospital

13:40-14:00 Short Telomere Syndrome and Lung Transplantation: New International Guidelines
Dr John Mackintosh, Lung Transplant Physician, The Prince Charles Hospital

KOALA - The New Kidney Allocation System for Australia
A/Professor Ross Francis, Nephrologist, Princess Alexandra Hospital

14:00-14:20 Pregnancy & Heart Transplant - A Patient Journey
Dr Scott McKenzie, Heart Transplant Physician, The Prince Charles Hospital

Liver Machine Perfusion
NP Candidate Dave Melgar, Liver Transplant Coordinator, Princess Alexandra Hospital

14:20-14:40 Lung Transplant in 2025 - Evolving patterns, patients and practise
Dr Michael Trotter, Lung Transplant Physician, The Prince Charles Hospital

Kidney Machine Perfusion – “The flow must go on”
Dr Peter Yoon, Kidney Transplant Surgeon, Princess Alexandra Hospital

14:40-14:55 **Session Q & A**

14:55-15:15 Afternoon Tea (Trade Exhibition & Posters)

Connaught Room

Session 4
Consumer Perspective: Personal Challenges While Waiting for the “Lifesaving” Call
Chairperson - Lauren Hawkins

15:15-15:35 **Organ Recipient Journey:**
Jordan Bate, Liver Recipient

15:35-15:55 **Organ Recipient Journey:**
Tina Lee, Heart / Lung Recipient

15:55 - 16:00 **Session Q & A**

16:00
Day 1 - Conference close
Lesleigh Winks

16:00-17:00 **Annual General Meeting**

18:00-22:00 Cocktail Event- Sixteen Antlers Rooftop Bar Pullman Hotel



Friday
24th October

Pullman Hotel King George Square Brisbane
Connaught Room



06:00-07:00

Roma St Parklands 5km Fun Run and Walking Group

Meet at Pullman Centre (*Scenic route through Roma Street Parklands and over Kurilpa Bridge*)



08:00-08:30

Registration Open (Tea & coffee available)

08:30-08:35

Conference Welcome Day 2

A/Prof Bronwyn Levvey, National TNA President (Outgoing)

Session 1

Clinical Ethics- Organ Transplantation

Chairperson - Julie Haynes

08:35-09:20

"Making Ethical Sense of Family Veto: When families decline deceased donation on behalf of a registered donor"

Keynote speaker, Professor Dominique Martin

09:20-09:50

Australia's National Program: Current state and where to from here?

Alison Hodak, National Clinical Program Manager, Organ and Transplant Authority (OTA)

09:50-10:00

GOLD SPONSOR

Presentation by Pharmacor



Pharmacor

10:00-10:20

Morning Tea (Trade Exhibition & Posters)

Session 2

Session - "Advancing Care in Cardiothoracic Transplantation"

Chairperson- Lesleigh Winks

10:20-10:40

"Our Journey through Ex Vivo Lung Perfusion (EVLP)"

Professor Peter Hopkins, Executive Director, Heart & Lung Clinical Stream, MNHHS

Professor, Faculty of Medicine, The University of Queensland

Director Queensland Lung Transplant Service, The Prince Charles Hospital

10:40-11:00

"Bridging to Heart Transplant from Ventricular Assist Device (VAD)"

Dr Wendy Chan, A/Director Queensland Heart Transplant Service, The Prince Charles Hospital

11:00-11:10

Session Q & A

Session 3

A Multidisciplinary team approach to transplant

Chairperson - Cathy Martin

11:10-11:55

Working together for the best outcome: Optimising Patient Readiness for Transplant with our Ageing Recipient Population

Allied Health Panel: Donna Hickling, Linh Pham, James Walsh, Tracy Tse, Melissa Andrews

11:55-12:15

The Effects of Cannabis in the Transplant Recipient

Dr Mark Wallace, Psychiatrist, Princess Alexandra Hospital

12:15-12:35

"Dying to Live" Palliative Care Involvement throughout the Transplant Journey

Dr Jade Jones, Palliative Care Physician, The Prince Charles Hospital

12:35-12:45

Session Q & A

Friday
24th October

Pullman Hotel King George Square Brisbane
**King George Room and
Connaught Room**



12:45-13:40 Lunch (Trade Exhibition & Posters)

Session 4
Breakout Sessions
Concurrent abstract presentations

King George Room
Chairperson: Abbey Tahi

Connaught Room
Chairperson: Julie Haynes and Natalie Dempster

13:40-14:00 Ongoing success in a Highly Sensitized Lung Transplant Recipient
CNC Sharon Lawrence, Advanced Lung Disease and Lung Transplant Unit, Fiona Stanley Hospital, WA

"I can't afford a Transplant": The Financial Burden of Transplantation for Regional and Rural Patients
CNC Bronwyn Hayes, Cairns Base Hospital, Qld

14:00-14:20 Unlocking Opportunities: A Review of Organ Donor offers to the Australian Intestinal Transplant Service – What are we missing?
CNC Julie Pavlovic, Liver Transplant Coordinator, Austin Hospital, Vic

The Greatest Gift of all. What motivates people to become living kidney donors? What barriers do they face and what can we do to increase donation rates?
NC Fleur Tuthill, Transplant Coordinator and Research Clinical Nurse, Flinders Medical Centre, SA

14:20-14:40 I had half my Organs taken out and replaced: A Transplant Journey in Parts. A Patients Perspective following Multi-organ Transplantation
Dr Jane Miller, Transplant Psychologist, National Paediatric Lung Team, Alfred Hospital, Vic

Nurse Practitioner Outpatient Clinic for Kidney Transplant Recipients: A Case Study
NP Narissa Andrew, Renal Transplant, Royal Melbourne Hospital, Vic

14:40-15:00 Catching the Tube to the Diarrhoea Stop
NP Jane van der Jeugd, Flinders Medical Centre, SA

NQKTS Journey
CN Lauren Stitt, Kidney Transplant Unit, The Townsville Hospital, Qld
Presented by Mike Utsiwegota

15:00-15:15 **Session Q & A**

15:15-15:35 Afternoon Tea

Connaught Room
Chairperson - Ruby Geddes

15:35- 15:55 **Not Just Little Adults...Complexities of Paediatric Organ Donation**
CNC Shontelle Thomas, DonateLife Specialist, Queensland Children's Hospital

15:55-16:00 **Session Q & A**

16:00-16:10 **NSW 2026 Conference Presentation**
Claire West TNA National President (Incoming)

16:10-16:30 Prize Presentations and Conference Close
Queensland Branch Executive Committee

Poster Presentations

Thursday 23rd October



Morning tea (Trade Exhibition and Poster)

10:30 - 10:50am

10:40-10:50

Melissa Stanley

NUM and NP Kidney Transplant Service, The Royal Melbourne Hospital, Vic

Topic title: Improving Equity and Access to Live Kidney Donor Transplantation

10:40-10:50

Kate Fitt

Kidney Transplant Coordinator, Monash Health, Melbourne, Vic

Topic title 1: Four Kidney Transplants over 22 years: A Case Study of Repeated Renal Transplantation and the Evolution of Treatment

Topic title 2: A Multidisciplinary Model for Renal Transplant Listing: Integrating Satellite Dialysis Units and Specialist Departments in a Single-Centre Experience

Lunch (Trade Exhibition and Poster)

12:35 - 13:20

13:10 - 13:20

David Matas

International Human Rights Lawyer, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
(Email: dmatas@mts.net)

Topic title: International Coalition to End Transplant Abuse in China



Poster Presentations

Friday 24th October



Lunch (Trade Exhibition and Poster)

12:45 - 13:40

13:30-13:40

Catherine King

BSc BPharm(Hons), Pharmacist, PhD candidate, School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, The University of Queensland, Qld

Topic title: Exploring Patient Experience of Potential Tacrolimus Toxicity and Novel Approaches to Measuring Tacrolimus Exposure after Adult Kidney Transplantations

13:30-13:40

Dr Zaneta Smith

RN, BN, PGDip (Clin Prac-Periop), MClin Prac with Distinction, MTerEd Mgmt, PhD, FACORN, SFHEA; Senior Lecturer, Adelaide Nursing School, Faculty of Health and Medical, Adelaide

Topic title: Exploring Support Resources for Patients waiting on the Transplant list: A scoping review



Keynote Speakers



Professor David McGiffin

Honorary Cardiac Surgeon

Donor Heart Preservation - End of the Ice Age

Current appointments: Senior Cardiothoracic Surgeon, Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery and Transplantation, The Alfred Hospital, (now retired from clinical practice) and Professor of cardiothoracic surgery, Monash University, Melbourne Australia and Honorary Professor, School of Medicine, University of Queensland, Brisbane Australia.

Clinical work: Prof. McGiffin trained in Brisbane but spent most of his career at the University of Alabama at Birmingham where his major focus was heart and lung transplantation, mechanical circulatory support, and pulmonary endarterectomy. He returned to Australia in 2013 as head of the department of cardiothoracic surgery and transplantation at the Alfred and Professor of cardiothoracic surgery at Monash University, Melbourne from 2013 to 2021. His clinical activities were adult cardiac surgery, pulmonary endarterectomy, adult heart transplantation, mechanical circulatory support, adult, and paediatric lung transplantation.

Research: Since 2013 his major research interest has been in donor heart preservation using hypothermic oxygenated perfusion (HOPE). Four years of experimental work have underpinned the Australian/New Zealand Clinical Trial of HOPE for which he was the co-principal investigator. HOPE preservation has been transformative – there is now no donor heart anywhere in Australia or New Zealand that cannot be transported to a transplant centre in either country. Another area of his research is investigating the pathology of ventricular assist device driveline infection as well as novel anti-infective driveline surface modifications.



Professor Dominique Martin

Health Ethicist School of Medicine, Deakin University, Vic

Making Ethical Sense of Family Veto: when families decline deceased donation on behalf of a registered donor"

Dominique is Professor in Health Ethics and Professionalism in the School of Medicine at Deakin University, where she leads the ethics, law and professionalism team.

Dominique studied medicine and Arts as undergraduate degrees, with majors in Philosophy and English. She spent several years working in emergency medicine while pursuing postgraduate studies. Dominique has authored or co-authored more than 65 peer reviewed journal articles and book chapters and regularly presents at Australian and international medical and bioethics conferences.

Invited Speakers



Dr Lana Sundac

Clinical Microbiologist and Infectious Diseases Physician Princess Alexandra Hospital, Qld

Consulting on Rare & Exotic Infections in Solid Organ Donors

Dr Lana Sundac is a dual-trained Clinical Microbiologist and Infectious Diseases Physician working at the Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane. She has a special interest in infections in immunocompromised hosts including solid organ transplant recipients and people living with HIV. She is a member of the Transplantation Society of Australia and New Zealand (TSANZ) and Infectious Diseases Special Interest Group (TIDSIG).



Dr Caroline Tallis

Hepatologist, Princess Alexandra Hospital, Qld

Recipients of High Viral Risk Donors- What is the follow up?

Dr Caroline Tallis is a consultant Hepatologist at the Princess Alexandra Hospital where she has a strong interest in Hepatology and Liver Transplantation, being the medical lead of the Queensland Liver Transplant Service.

Dr Tallis graduated from medical school at the University of Sydney with an honors degree. She undertook physician training at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital (RBWH) and completed her gastroenterology specialist training in Queensland. This was followed by a position as the clinical hepatology and liver transplant fellow at the Princess Alexandra Hospital where she developed an interest in liver transplantation. The following year she travelled to the UK where she held the position of Clinical Research Fellow at the Institute of liver studies at Kings College Hospital, London, United Kingdom.

Dr Tallis is committed to the advocacy, education and training of Gastroenterology and Hepatology. She has been on the Executive Council of the Australian Liver Association (GESA) since 2014. She has also held the position of president of the Gastroenterology Society of Queensland (GESQ). She is a regular speaker in national and local educational programs.

Invited Speakers



Dr Kanthi Vemuri

Infectious Disease Physician, The Prince Charles Hospital, Qld

Donor Derived Infections Excluded from Organ Acceptance

Dr Kanthi Vemuri is a Transplant Infectious Diseases Physician at The Prince Charles Hospital, Brisbane. She completed immune compromised host infections fellowship from University of North Carolina, USA in 2023. She is actively involved as a committee member for Transplant Infectious Diseases Special interest group (TIDSIG) with Transplant Society of Australia and New Zealand. She is passionate to work towards strongly collaborating and integrating infection prevention and management in immune compromised patients.



Professor Kiarash Khosrotehrani

Transplant Dermatologist, Princess Alexandra Hospital,
The Prince Charles Hospital and the Skin and Cancer Foundation's
Queensland Institute of Dermatology, Qld

Skin Cancer Diagnosis & Management in Solid Organ Transplantation

Professor Khosrotehrani is a Dermatologist, interested in skin biology, regenerative medicine and skin cancer. He leads the experimental dermatology group at the University of Queensland Frazer Institute within the Translational Research Institute in Brisbane, Australia. He is a fellow of the Australian College of Dermatologists and a practising dermatologist at the Princess Alexandra Hospital, Prince Charles Hospital and the Skin and Cancer Foundation's Queensland Institute of Dermatology.



Professor Nikky Isbel

Nephrologist, Princess Alexandra Hospital, Qld

Skin Cancer - A Transplant Patient's Journey - Can We Do Better?

Professor Nikky Isbel is a full-time Nephrologist and Transplant Physician at the Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane. She is an active researcher with expertise in kidney transplantation, complications of immunosuppression, disorders of complement regulation, and glomerulonephritis. With over 200 peer-reviewed publications, Professor Isbel has made significant contributions to her field. Recently, she was appointed as the Chair of the Transplantation Society of Australia and New Zealand (TSANZ).

Invited Speakers



Associate Professor James Wells

Immunologist, Ian Frazer Institute, Qld

What's on the Horizon - Skin Cancer Treatment

Associate Professor James Wells leads the novel cancer therapeutics group at Frazer Institute and is the Director of Immunology at the Dermatology Research Centre, University of Queensland. He is also the Vice President of the Molecular and Experimental Pathology Society of Australasia (MEPSA), and a mentee of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences (AAHMS). He received his PhD in cancer immunotherapy from King's College London, UK, and postdoctoral training at Harvard Medical School, USA, where he received an award for research excellence and was promoted to Faculty as an Instructor. In 2011, he was awarded a prestigious 5-year perpetual trustees fellowship and was appointed as a group leader at the University of Queensland's Frazer Institute.

Associate Professor Wells is passionate about delivering effective new treatments to combat cancer through the translation of his research. To achieve this, he collaborates with medicinal chemists, imaging specialists, clinical research teams and industry partners to identify and target pathways and mechanisms that allow cancer cells to grow within the body.

In collaboration with the Queensland Emory Drug Discovery Initiative, he has recently developed and patented a drug (Q2361) designed to prevent and treat skin cancer in immune-suppressed solid organ transplant recipients. Q2361 is a first-in-class drug candidate capable of reactivating anti-tumour CD8 T cells in the skin of organ transplant recipients on the immunosuppressive drugs Tacrolimus (FK506), Sirolimus (rapamycin), and Everolimus. He is currently striving to bring Q2361 across the 'valley of death' and into clinical trials.

James would like to thank the granting bodies and philanthropic partnerships that make his goal of delivering new and effective cancer drugs possible.



Coroner Melinda Zerner

Coronial Role of Organ Donation & Donor Assessments

Coroner Melinda Zerner was appointed as a Brisbane Coroner and Magistrate in December 2023. She holds tertiary qualifications in law, education, and nursing. She was admitted as a solicitor in 2004 and joined the private Bar as a barrister in 2011. She had a successful practice in medical negligence and public liability insurance. She was regularly briefed in medical and non-medical inquests as either Counsel Assisting or for an interested party in coronial matters. Her legal expertise extends to mediations, coronial inquests, civil litigation, and commissions of inquiry. Prior to her career in law, Coroner Zerner worked as a registered nurse, nurse educator, and clinical nurse manager. She has a Post Registration Certificate in Aged Care.

Invited Speakers



Abbey Tahi

NP Abbey Tahi, Heart Transplant, The Prince Charles Hospital, Qld

Nurse Practitioner Model of Care

Abbey Tahi is a Cardiac Transplant Nurse Practitioner within the Advanced Heart Failure and Cardiac Transplant unit at The Prince Charles Hospital Brisbane. Her 21 years of nursing experience has been in a vast variety of areas including cardiology medical and surgical, respiratory, general medical and surgical and disability. She is passionate about goal setting, collaborative learning, and balancing career progression with self-care and family. Abbey thrives in a strong team with clear goals and a direction for the future that is patient focused on up-to-date evidence and research, and is a passionate nurse mentor.



Dr John Mackintosh

Lung Transplant Physician, The Prince Charles Hospital, Qld

Short Telomere Syndrome and Lung Transplantation:
New International Guidelines

Dr John Mackintosh is a respiratory and lung transplant physician at The Prince Charles Hospital, Brisbane. John completed a clinical fellowship in interstitial lung disease, in 2018 at The Royal Brompton Hospital, London. John has subspeciality expertise in pulmonary fibrosis and the genetic contributions to this disease. John is co-lead of upcoming international guidelines on the peri-transplant management of lung transplant candidates with short telomere syndromes.



Dr Michael Trotter

Lung Transplant Physician, The Prince Charles Hospital, Qld

Lung Transplant in 2025 - Evolving patterns, patients and practise

Dr Michael Trotter is a Lung Transplant and Respiratory Physician at The Prince Charles Hospital. Dr Trotter specializes in the diagnosis and management of complex lung diseases, including pulmonary hypertension and ILD. He plays a key role within the Queensland Lung Transplant Service, providing pre- and post-transplant care for patients undergoing lung and multi-organ transplants. In addition to clinical work, Dr Trotter is actively involved in clinical research and trials related to lung transplantation and respiratory medicine. He also maintains academic affiliations, contributing to teaching and advancing the field. His work supports one of Australasia's leading transplant centers, helping to improve outcomes and access for patients with end-stage lung disease across Queensland.

Invited Speakers



Dr Scott McKenzie

Heart Transplant Physician, The Prince Charles Hospital, Qld

Pregnancy & Heart Transplant - A Patient Journey

Scott McKenzie is a dual trained general physician and cardiologist. He's a senior staff specialist at The Prince Charles Hospital in the Advanced Heart Failure & Cardiac Transplant Unit. He's Visiting Medical Officer at St Vincent's Northside Private Hospital and works with Queensland Cardiovascular Group. He provides Telehealth and outreach cardiology services to Central West Hospital and Health Services in far western Queensland. He provides Telehealth cardiology clinics to Fraser Coast supporting the work of their only nurse practitioner. He's a senior lecturer with the University of Queensland. He's published enough research papers to prove he likes engaging in research but not so many as to be invited on international speaking tours. He's currently doing Masters of Clinical Redesign and is supposed to be teaching Advanced Life Support today too. He also is glad to be able to say that he has one delightfully archaic title: Officer of the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem, that's through being a volunteer with St John Ambulance for some 30 years.



Dr Melita Andelkovic

Hepatologist and Liver Transplant Physician, Princess Alexandra Hospital, Qld

From the Frail to Obese - What is: Pre-habilitation?

Dr Melita Andelkovic is a Hepatologist and Liver transplant physician at the Princess Alexandra Hospital. She believes that exercise, strong muscles and a healthy dose of smiles can make a difference in patient's transplant journeys



David Melgar

NP Candidate Liver Transplant Coordinator, Princess Alexandra Hospital, Qld

Liver Machine Perfusion

David Melgar has over two decades of experience in transplant nursing. Since beginning at the PA Hospital in 2001, he has developed extensive expertise in the care of transplant recipients. In 2017, he transitioned into the role of Liver Transplant Coordinator, where he plays a key role in the coordination of complex patient care and multidisciplinary collaboration. Driven by a passion for advancing nursing practice and improving patient outcomes, David is currently completing a Master of Nurse Practitioner, with the goal of expanding his scope of practice in liver transplant care.

Invited Speakers



Associate Professor Ross Francis

Nephrologist, Princess Alexandra Hospital, Qld

KOALA - The New Kidney Allocation System for Australia

Associate Professor Ross Francis is a full-time nephrologist and transplant physician at the Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane. He is passionate about improving the lives of people with kidney disease.

Clinical and research interests include:

- Tissue typing and transplant immunology
- The application of novel therapies for glomerulonephritis and transplantation (including biological and cellular therapies)
- Frailty in patients with kidney disease
- Predicting and preventing progression of kidney disease

Dr Francis is involved in a number of transplant advisory groups including:

- Chair of the Renal Transplant Advisory Committee, Chair and clinical lead of the Virtual Crossmatch Working Group.



Dr Peter Yoon

Kidney Transplant Surgeon, Princess Alexandra Hospital, Qld

Kidney Machine Perfusion - "The Flow Must Go On"

Dr Peter Yoon is a Transplant and General Surgeon currently serving as a Senior Medical Officer at Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane. He earned his Master of Surgery (Upper GI Surgery) in 2015 and achieved Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (FRACS) in General Surgery in 2020. Following this, Dr. Yoon undertook an additional three years of specialised fellowship training in transplant surgery through the Postgraduate Fellowship Education and Training Program at Westmead and Princess Alexandra Hospitals.

Dr. Yoon's research primarily focuses on the clinical outcomes of liver and renal transplantation. He has contributed extensively to the field, authoring over 30 peer-reviewed publications. His work has been widely recognized and presented at numerous national and international conferences. In 2021, Dr. Yoon was honored with the Early Career Researcher Award for his oral presentation on Normothermic Ex-Vivo Machine Perfusion of Kidney Transplants at the Transplantation Society of Australia and New Zealand (TSANZ) Annual Scientific Meeting.

Invited Speakers



Professor Peter Hopkins

Executive Director, Heart & Lung Clinical Stream, MNHHS
Professor, Faculty of Medicine, The University of Queensland Director
Queensland Lung Transplant Service, The Prince Charles Hospital, Qld

"Our Journey Through Ex vivo Lung Perfusion (EVLP)"

Dr Peter Hopkins is a Professor with the University of Queensland School of Medicine and Director of the Queensland Lung Transplant Service since 2007. He undertook a Fellowship in Lung Transplantation at St Vincents Hospital Sydney 2000-2001 inclusive and was employed as a Consultant at the Papworth Institute, Cambridge UK in 2002. Professor Hopkins is the Secretary and Past Program Chair of the International Society of Heart and Lung Transplantation, President-Elect of ISHLT and has been Executive Director of the Heart-Lung Stream since March 2020. He has a special interest in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health issues and has implemented both respiratory and cardiac First Nation outreach clinics in Metro North: UROC and HOPE respectively.



Dr Wendy Chan

Acting Clinical Director Queensland Heart Transplant Service,
The Prince Charles Hospital, Qld

"Bridging to Heart transplant from Ventricular Assist Device (VAD)"

Dr Wendy Chan is the Acting Clinical Director of the Advanced Heart Failure and Cardiac Transplant Unit at TPCH. Dr Chan leads the state's referral centre for patients needing advanced heart failure care, including those needing heart transplants and mechanical circulatory support. Joining the unit in 2013, Dr Chan is passionate about innovative ways to improve care for heart failure. Dr Chan is also very proud to be a founding member of the Queensland Women in Cardiology Group, a mentoring group that connects cardiology clinicians, trainees and junior doctors with an interest in cardiology.



Dr Mark Wallace

Psychiatrist, Princess Alexandra Hospital, Qld

The effects of Cannabis in the Transplant Recipient

Dr Mark Wallace is the Clinical Liaison Psychiatrist for Metro South Health and serves on the Kidney and Liver Assessment Committees at Princess Alexandra Hospital. He is a distinguished member of the faculties of Psychiatry of Old Age, Clinical Liaison Psychiatry, and Addiction Psychiatry.

Dr Wallace has extensive experience across both public and private sectors, specializing in old age psychiatry, addiction psychiatry, clinical liaison psychiatry, and disaster recovery. His diverse clinical background and committee involvement reflect his commitment to integrated, multidisciplinary care.

Invited Speakers

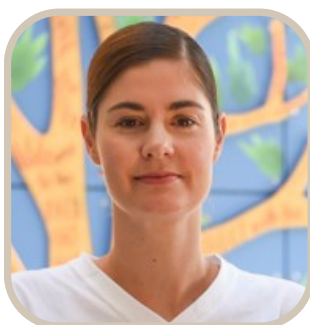


Dr Jade Jones

Palliative Care Physician, The Prince Charles Hospital, Qld

"Dying to Live" Palliative care involvement throughout the transplant journey

Dr Jade Jones is a Specialist Palliative Care Physician, Intensivist and Anaesthetist. After graduating from University of Queensland, she completed postgraduate training in Queensland and Victoria and now works predominantly at Prince Charles Hospital in Brisbane. She has a broad education and prior working experience in law and commerce with current studies towards Master of Medical Leadership and Management. She holds Masters degrees in Bioethics (Monash University), Critical Care (University of Sydney) and Laws (UQ). This background supports current clinical interests in improving effective communication, team management and quality systems outcomes for patients, colleagues and organisations.



Shontelle Thomas

DonateLife Specialist, Queensland Children's Hospital, Qld

Not Just Little Adults...Complexities of Paediatric Organ Donation

Shontelle Thomas is a Donation Specialist Nurse for DonateLife at Queensland Children's Hospital based in the Paediatric Intensive Care Unit.

Shontelle has completed a Bachelor of Health Science Degree (Nursing) and a Postgraduate Certificate in Nursing Practice - Paediatric Intensive Care. 20 years nursing experience, 17 of those in PICU, and the last 7 years as the Donation Specialist Nurse – a very unique role that provides beautiful high-quality end of life while also offering the opportunity for organ and tissue donation.

Allied Health Expert Panel



"Working together for the best outcome:
Optimising patient readiness for transplant with our
ageing recipient population"



Donna Hickling

Dietitian Team Leader, The Prince Charles Hospital, Qld

Donna Hickling (AdvAPD) is a Dietitian Team Leader at The Prince Charles Hospital, Queensland. Donna has 20 years of experience as a dietitian, including 13 years working with the Queensland Lung Transplant Service. She holds committee roles for both the International Society of Heart and Lung Transplantation, and the Transplant Society of Australia and New Zealand. Her research has spanned both heart and lung transplant, and she is currently undertaking a PhD exploring the role of nutrition in lung transplant outcomes.



Linh Pham

Social Worker Advanced, Princess Alexandra Hospital, Qld

Linh Pham graduated in 2005 from University of Queensland with a double degree in Social Work and Social Science, Health Major. She has worked in various metropolitan hospitals within QLD, from across the lifespan (children's, maternity, and adult health) and in clinical and community settings. In the last 14 years, she has specialised in chronic disease and palliative care. Linh is currently the Clinical Advanced Social Worker for Kidney Transplant at Princess Alexandra Hospital.



Dr James Walsh

Physiotherapist - Clinical Consultant, The Prince Charles Hospital, Qld

Dr James Walsh is a Physiotherapist - Clinical Consultant at the Prince Charles Hospital, Brisbane working as a clinician within the Queensland Lung Transplant Service and the Advanced Heart Failure and Cardiac Transplant Unit. James has research interests in exercise rehabilitation in both lung and heart disease, he has co-authored international society of heart and lung transplant guidelines and is the co-chair of Queensland Health's Statewide Respiratory and Sleep Clinical Network.



Tracy Tse

Pharmacist, Specialising in Lung Transplant, The Prince Charles Hospital, Qld

Tracy Tse is the pharmacy team leader for respiratory medicine at the Prince Charles hospital, specialising in lung transplant. Tracy has extensive experience in optimising immunosuppressive therapy, managing complex medication regime and supporting patients through all stages of the transplant journey. Tracy is compassionate about medication safety, improving long term outcomes through patient education, multidisciplinary collaboration, and evidence-based practice.

Allied Health Expert Panel



"Working together for the best outcome:
Optimising patient readiness for transplant with our
ageing recipient population"

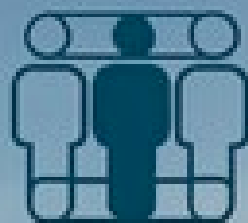


Dr Melissa Andrews

Health Psychologist, The Prince Charles Hospital, Qld

Melissa Andrews is a Health Psychologist at The Prince Charles Hospital who supports adults experiencing complex medical and psychological challenges in the context of heart and lung transplantation. She provides psychological assessment and intervention across the pre- and post-transplant continuum and also supports individuals with adjustment to cardiac and respiratory disease, cancer, and end-of-life care.

Prior to this role, Melissa worked at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital across a range of specialties, including surgery, intensive care, trauma, transplantation, infectious disease, chronic disease, palliative care, and general medicine. She takes a compassionate, person-centred approach to care and values collaboration within multidisciplinary teams.



**TRANSPLANT
NURSES'
ASSOCIATION**

5 KM FUN RUN & WALKING GROUP

**ROMA STREET PARKLANDS
BRISBANE, QLD**

MEET AT PULLMAN CENTRE

5:45AM

FRIDAY 24 OCTOBER 2025



The Transplant Nurses' Association would like to thank our sponsors:

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2025 National Conference

23 to 24 October 2025

Inspiration and Education Leads to Innovation