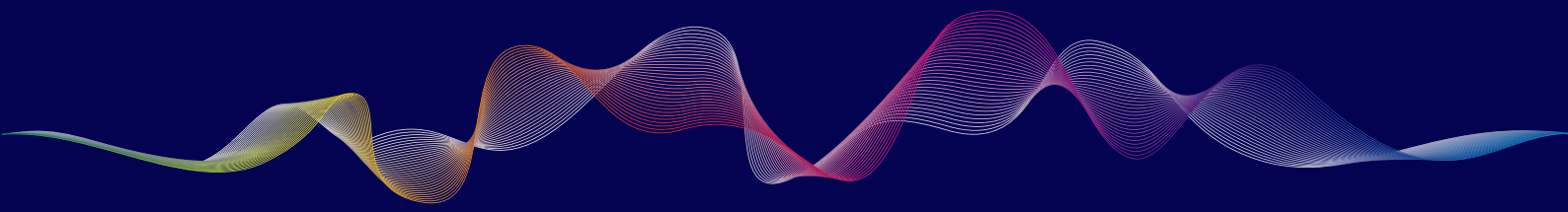
ACAH23

A Voice for Children



ACAH
ACADEMY OF CHILD & ADOLESCENT HEALTH

Academy of Child and Adolescent Health Conference

19 - 21 October 2023

Novotel Melbourne on Collins

acah.org.au



THE ACAH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The first ACAH meeting was held in Melbourne in 2018, folllowed by our second conference in Adelaide in September 2019 and our third conference in Sydney in April 2022. These events have been enormous successes, with delegates from six of Australia's states and territories as well as international delegates.

These conferences have had a focus on disadvantaged and vulnerable children, including refugee children, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and trans youth. Our fourth conference ACAH23 will be held in Melbourne and will be centered around the theme of being "A Voice for Children", particularly focusing on advocacy in mental health, rural health, global and refugee health.

We anticipate 150-200 delegates including paediatricians, nurses, allied health professionals, basic and advanced trainees, public health and mental health experts, students across all disciplines.

ACAH23 CONFERENCE

A Voice for Children

GOAL

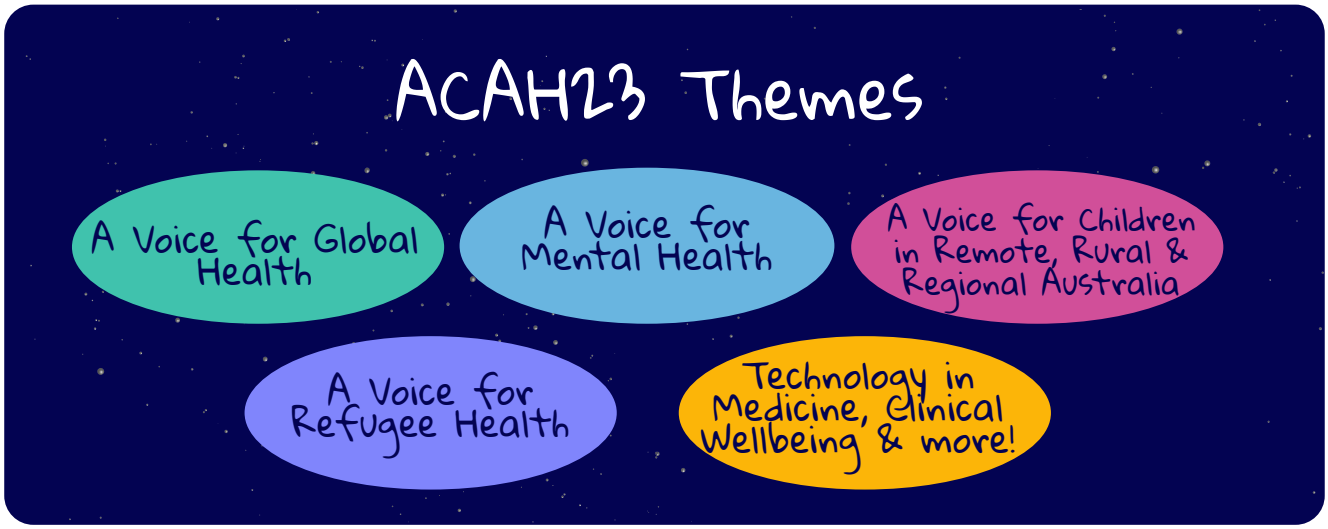
To educate and inspire health professionals, researchers and students with a passion for child and adolescent health.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Healthcare professionals across all disciplines involved with healthcare for children and young people.

OPPORTUNITIES

Plenary sessions, a diverse range of speakers, dedicated sessions for students and trainees, practical skills sessions and workshops.



ACAH23
A Voice for Children

THURSDAY 19TH OCTOBER

13:30 **Registration**

14:00 **Auslan Workshop**

Connect with a new group of patients learning relevant words + medical phrases

15:00 **Afternoon Tea**

General Workshops

15:30 **Talking the Talk with Teens**

Adolescents from Chronic Illness Peer Support (ChIPS) explain how best to connect and communicate

16:00 **Wellbeing in the Workplace**

"What sustains us in our work" led by Dr Helen Kambouridis, RCH Staff Support Wellbeing Lead

Medical Student Workshops

15:30 **Meet Dr Freya Bleathman from "You're Kidding Right"**

Chatting about all things paediatrics - from pathways to paediatrics, self-care and getting that work-life balance just right!

16:00 **A Crash Course in Child Life Therapy**

Learning how to interact with children of different ages with RCH Child Life Therapy

16:30 **Lort Smith Pet Therapy Dogs**

Meet the team from Lort Smith Animal Hospital's Pet Workplace Wellbeing Program

17:00 **ACAH Mentor Speed Dating**

Connecting like-minded mentors/mentees from all over Australia

18:00 **Cocktail Night at The Novotel on Collins**

FRIDAY 20TH OCTOBER

08:00 **Registration**

08:30 **Opening & Welcome to Country**
President's Report

09:00 **"A Voice for Children"**

Prof Leslie White AM
Emeritus Professor of Paediatrics; Inaugural NSW Chief Paediatrician (2010-2016); Executive Director Sydney Children's Hospital (1995-2010)

09:30 **A Voice for Global Health**

Chair: Dr Ashfaque Quadir
Paediatrician; Paediatric Intensive Care Trainee, Children's Hospital at Westmead

Dr Nikola Morton
Médecins Sans Frontières Medical Advisor for Paediatrics; Sydney Children's Hospital Network Board Member

Jenny Darvas
Mercy Ships Volunteer in West Africa PICU Nurse Practitioner and Researcher, Children's Hospital at Westmead

Prof Trevor Duke
Clinical Director of the General ICU, Royal Children's Hospital; Professor of Child Health, School of Medicine and Health Sciences, University of Papua New Guinea

10:40 **Morning Tea**

11:00 **A Voice for Refugee Health**

Chair: Prof Hasantha Gunasekera
Professor of Paediatric Priority Populations

Personal Story

Saad Alkassab
Australian-Syrian Refugee; TEDx Speaker; Messenger of Peace Award Recipient; Medical Student, Melbourne University

Nauru Research Update

Dr Lahiru Amarasena
General and Community Paediatrician, NSW; RACP Trainee Research Award for Excellence Recipient 2016

A/Prof Georgia Paxton OAM
Lead of Royal Children's Hospital Immigrant Health Service; Victorian Honour Roll of Women Inductee for services to refugee health

Refugee Health Panel: also featuring A/Prof Georgia Paxton OAM and Saad Alkassab

Prof Karen Zwi OAM
Community Paediatrician and Head of Community Child Health; Clinical Director for Priority Populations, SCHN

12:30 **Lunch & ACAH Annual General Meeting**

13:30 **Research Session 1**

400 Pairs of Deadly Ears – A Yarrabah Perspective of Ear Health

Madeleine Dodd

Gurriny Yealamucka Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service, NSW

The ever- evolving paediatric virtual health care delivery; virtualKIDS

Eunice Toriola

Sydney Children's Hospitals Network, NSW

ETAT+ The next chapter: An exploratory study identifying behavioural factors affecting the delivery of quality healthcare for critically ill children in Sierra Leone.

Madeleine Dodd

Gurriny Yealamucka Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service, NSW

Enhancing Transition Readiness through Co-design and Collaboration; a mixed methods approach.

Jourdan Hancock

Sydney Children's Hospitals Network, NSW

14:15 **A Voice for Mental Health - Part 1**

Challenges and Future Directions of Child and Adolescent Mental Health

Chair: Dr Jenny Proimos

Adolescent Physician; ACAH Chair; Past President RACP Paediatrics Division

Prof Frank Oberklaid AM

Foundation Director of Centre for Community Child Health, Royal Children's Hospital; Co-Chair of National Children's Mental Health & Wellbeing Strategy Working Group

Prof Valsamma Eapen

Chair of Infant, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at UNSW Sydney; Head of Academic Unit of Child Psychiatry South West Sydney (AUCS); Director of BestSTART Sydney Child Health Unit

Prof Vicki Anderson

Paediatric Neuropsychologist; Director of Psychology Services, Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne; Director, Clinical Sciences Research, Murdoch Children's Research Institute

Dr Bianca Forrester

Regional GP and Senior Lecturer at University of Melbourne specialising in Adolescent Health; Member of Barwon South West Interim Regional Body for the Victorian Mental Health Reform

15:15 **Afternoon Tea**

15:45 **A Voice for Mental Health - Part 2**

Clinician Wellbeing in the Pandemic Era and Beyond

Chair: Dr Jenny Proimos

Adolescent Physician; ACAH Chair; Past President RACP Paediatrics Division

Dr Eric Levi

Consultant ENT Surgeon, Royal Children's Hospital; Honorary Fellow, Murdoch Research Children's Instititute; #Medtwitter influencer

A/Prof Jane Munro

Paediatric Rheumatologist, Royal Children's Hospital; Member of Victorian Government COVID Taskforce for Healthcare Worker Wellbeing

16:30 **Research Session 2**

Assessment of the Quality of Adolescent Health Services using Adolescent Client Satisfaction: An Institutional Based Crosssectional Study

Erlinda Susana Cuisia-Cruz

Adolescent Medicine Division, Philippine Children's Medical Center, Quezon City, Philippines

Huddle for Change: An integrated Response to young people experiencing psychosocial complexities in Paediatric Emergency Departments

Jourdan Hancock

Sydney Children's Hospitals Network, NSW

Experiences of transition from paediatric to adult care: urinary incontinence within New South Wales

Jessica Sun

Sydney Children's Hospitals Network/University of Sydney, NSW

Access and Equity; providing child and adolescent public outpatients in the Barwon Region

Lawrence Gray

Children's Services Barwon Health, VIC

17:30 **Closing Remarks**

19:00 **Conference Dinner at Pure South**

Tickets sold separately

ACAH23
A Voice for Children

SATURDAY 21ST OCTOBER

08:00 **Registration**

09:00 **Opening Remarks & Champions Awards Presentations**

09:30 **Social Media in Medicine**

Dr Eric Levi
Consultant ENT Surgeon, Royal Children's Hospital; Honorary Fellow, Murdoch Research Children's Institute; #Medtwitter influencer

10:00 **The Great Debate: *"Technology takes you further away from the bedside"***

Chair: Dr Patrick Walker
Paediatric Advanced Trainee; Adjunct Research Associate, Monash University

Kate Renzenbrink
Chief Nursing and Midwifery Informatics Officer, Western Health

Dr Andrew Tagg
Emergency Physician; Co-Founder of "Don't Forget The Bubbles"; Victorian Wellbeing Champion for ACEM

Dr Laura Raiti
Paediatric Oncology Fellow, Royal Children's Hospital; Junior Doctor of the Year VIC 2018

Prof Hasantha Gunasekera
Professor of Paediatric Priority Populations, Children's Hospital Westmead Clinical School; Paediatrician and ACAH Board Member

Dr Simon Tamblyn
Chief Resident Medical Officer, Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne

Albert Einstein
Making a guest appearance for The Great Debate!

11:00 **Morning Tea**

11:30 **A Voice for Children in Remote, Rural & Regional Australia**

Chair: A/Prof Paul Bauert OAM
Paediatrician, Royal Darwin Hospital

Rheumatic Heart Disease in the Top End: Deadly Hearts

Dr Bo Remenyi
Paediatric Cardiologist, Royal Darwin Hospital; Northern Territory Australian of the Year 2018

Paediatrics in the Country: A Patient Story

Dr Shabna Rajapaksa with one of her patients and their family
Co-Head of Paediatrics, Grampians Health Ballarat; Deputy Director of Medical Student Education, University of Melbourne Rural Clinical School Ballarat

Beyond City Limits: Rural Nurse Practitioners

Stephanie Dowden
Nurse Practitioner; Founder of NursePrac Australia; Australian College of Nurse Practitioners Mentor of the Year 2021

13:00 **Lunch**

13:45 **A Voice for Indigenous Health**

Meena Singh
Victorian Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People

14:15 **Research Session 3 & Prize Announcements**

Chronic Conundrums: Elevating the Voices of Young People with Lived Experiences

Jourdan Hancock
Sydney Children's Hospitals Network, NSW

Validation of the Ask Suicide-Screening Questions (ASQ) as a Suicide Screening Tool for Adolescents in the Outpatient Population of a Tertiary Hospital

Darlene Pecache
Adolescent Medicine Division, Philippine Children's Medical Center, Quezon City, Philippines

15:15 **Closing Remarks**



ACAH23 SPEAKERS



Dr Nikola Morton
Médecins Sans Frontières Medical Advisor for Paediatrics; Sydney Children's Hospital Network Board Member



A/Prof Jane Munro
Paediatric Rheumatologist, Royal Children's Hospital; Member of Victorian Government COVID Taskforce for Healthcare Worker Wellbeing



Jennifer Darvas
Mercy Ships Volunteer in West Africa PICU Nurse Practitioner and Researcher, Children's Hospital at Westmead



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Consultant ENT Surgeon, Royal Children's Hospital; Honorary Fellow, Murdoch Research Children's Instititute; #Medtwitter influencer



Saad Alkassab
Australian-Syrian Refugee; TEDx Speaker; Messenger of Peace Award Recipient; Medical Student, Melbourne University



Dr Bo Remenyi
Paediatric Cardiologist, Royal Darwin Hospital; Northern Territory Australian of the Year 2018



Prof Frank Oberklaid AM
Foundation Director of Centre for Community Child Health, Royal Children's Hospital; Co-Chair of National Children's Mental Health & Wellbeing Strategy Working Group



Prof Kim Oates AO
Emeritus Professor of Paediatrics; Previous CEO of Children's Hospital at Westmead; Former President of International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect



Prof Hasantha Gunasekera
Professor of Paediatric Priority Populations, Children's Hospital Westmead Clinical School; Paediatrician and ACAH Board Member



Dr Shabna Rajapaksa
Co-Head of Paediatrics, Grampians Health Ballarat; Deputy Director of Medical Student Education, University of Melbourne Rural Clinical School Ballarat



Prof Karen Zwi OAM
Community Paediatrician and Head of Community Child Health, Clinical Director for Priority Populations, Sydney Children's Hospitals Network



Prof Les White AM
Emeritus Professor of Paediatrics; Inaugural NSW Chief Paediatrician (2010-2016); Executive Director Sydney Children's Hospital (1995-2010)



A/Prof Georgia Paxton OAM
Lead of Royal Children's Hospital Immigrant Health Service; Victorian Honour Roll Inductee for Services to Refugee Health



Kate Renzenbrink RN MACN CHIA
Digital Health Adviser, Australian Digital Health Agency; Former Chief of Nursing & Midwifery, Informatics Officer, Western Health



ACAH23 SPEAKERS



Dr Andrew Tagg
Emergency Physician; Co-Founder of "Don't Forget The Bubbles"; Victorian Wellbeing Champion for ACEM



Carlie Alicastro
Child Life Therapist, Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne; Host and Co-Producer of RCHTV and Hospital Lingo; Masters Student in Child Play Therapy



Dr Freya Bleathman
Paediatric Trainee, Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne; Co-Founder of "You're Kidding Right" Educational Paediatric Podcast



Stephanie Dowden
Nurse Practitioner; Founder of NursePrac Australia; Australian College of Nurse Practitioners Mentor of the Year 2021



Meena Singh
Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People



Prof Trevor Duke
Clinical Director of the General ICU, Royal Children's Hospital; Professor of Child Health, School of Medicine, University of Papua New Guinea



Prof Valsamma Eapen
Chair of Infant, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, UNSW Sydney; Head of Academic Unit of Child Psychiatry South West Sydney (AUCS)



Prof Vicki Anderson
Paediatric Neuropsychologist; Director of Psychology Services, Royal Children's Hospital; Director, Clinical Sciences Research, MCRI



Dr Simon Tamblyn
General Paediatrician and Chief Resident Medical Officer, Royal Children's Hospital



Dr Laura Raiti
Paediatric Oncology Fellow, Royal Children's Hospital; Victorian Junior Doctor of the Year 2018



Dr Bianca Forrester
Regional GP specialising in Adolescent Health, Member of Barwon South West Interim Regional Body for Victorian Mental Health Reform



Dr Helen Kambouridis
Lead Psychologist for Royal Children's Hospital Staff Wellbeing Support Program; Senior Psychologist at Gatehouse Centre for Sexual Assault

Read their full speaker bios at the end of this booklet!



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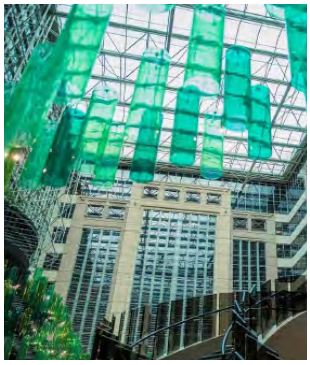


NOVOTEL MELBOURNE ON COLLINS

Centrally located on bustling Collins Street in the heart of Melbourne CBD, the Novotel Melbourne on Collins is renowned for its contemporary style, 4.5 star hotel comfort and unique event spaces.

- Walking distance to Melbourne's premier shopping district, entertainment precinct and iconic landmarks.
- Features 380 guest rooms, 8 flexible function rooms, restaurant, bar, indoor heated swimming pool and gymnasium
- State of the art Audio Visual (AV) lighting and staging infrastructure
- Culmination of elegant design and engaging event spaces
- Located in the heart of Melbourne's CBD and surrounded by network of tram, bus and train routes within walking distance
- Disabled access
- Novotel Melbourne has a COVID-19 safety management plan in place









AWARD-WINNING FOOD & CATERING

- Serving Melbourne's best quality local produce, from the freshest of seafoods to the premium cut of meats
- The executive chefs and kitchen brigade at Novotel Melbourne combine an ethical and environmentally responsible approach
- Novotel Melbourne will prepare customised meals for attendees with dietary requirements







ACAH2023 ORGANISING COMMITTEE

CONFERENCE CO-CONVENORS



Dr Ashfaque Quadir

Paediatrician; Paediatric Intensive Care Trainee, Children's Hospital at Westmead
E: ashfaque.quadir@health.nsw.gov.au

Ashfaque (Ash) Quadir is a paediatrician who trained in Sydney and Darwin and is currently pursuing his second fellowship in Paediatric Intensive Care at the Children's Hospital at Westmead. He is passionate about medical education, training and mentorship and has served on many hospital-based and statewide committees including with the Royal Australasian College of Physicians.

His interest in clinical leadership led to his selection into the international Paediatric Leadership Program through Harvard Medical School and then as the Chief Resident at CHW in 2020. He has also been nominated as NSW Volunteer of the Year for his work and advocacy with Camp Quality. Ash has been an ACAH Board Member since 2022 and looks forward to convening what is going to be a great conference!



Dr Anysha Walia

Paediatric Trainee, Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne
E: anysha.m.walia@gmail.com

Anysha Walia is a first-year paediatric trainee at the Royal Children's Hospital. She completed her undergraduate medical degree at Monash University and internship at St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne in 2022. She was shortlisted for Intern of the Year and a dedicated member of the Junior Medical Society Education Committee.

She is passionate about medical education, refugee health and social justice. She is a volunteer for the Water Well Project and currently involved in refugee health research. Anysha was initially involved with ACAH as a medical student committee member and is excited to convene a great conference this year!

ACAH CHAIR



Dr Jenny Proimos

Adolescent Physician, Royal Children's Hospital and University of Melbourne; Past President RACP Paediatrics Division
E: admin@acah.org.au

RESEARCH CONVENOR



Prof Hasantha Gunasekera

Professor of Paediatric Priority Populations, Children's Hospital Westmead Clinical School, University of Sydney, Paediatrician & ACAH Board Member



ACAH2023 ORGANISING COMMITTEE



Prof Kim Oates AO
Emeritus Professor of Paediatrics,
Previous CEO The Children's
Hospital at Westmead



Dr Dan Dorevitch
ACAH 2019 Convenor
Paediatric Trainee,
Mercy Hospital for Women



Dr Claire Demeo
Paediatric Trainee,
Women's and Children's Hospital
Adelaide



Dr Annemarie Christie
General Practitioner,
Director of Sydney Child
Health Program (SCHP)



Dr Kathleen Deeney
PICU Nurse Practitioner, Children's
Hospital Westmead, Sydney
Children's Hospitals Network



Dr Hasmeera Davè
Paediatric Trainee,
Children's Hospital at Westmead



Connor Ryan
Medical Student
University of Queensland



Dr Jessica Sun
Intern,
Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Hospital



Dr Katrina Pandey
Paediatric Trainee,
Royal Children's Hospital



Michelle Pham
Marketing and Communications
Manager, Sydney Child Health
Program



Pretashini Somasundram
Medical Student,
University of Melbourne



Dr Jane Theophillia Wijaya
Intern,
Northeast Health Wangaratta



Dr Roshan Vaseeharan
Paediatric Trainee,
Children's Hospital at Westmead



SPEAKER BIOS

TALKING THE TALK WITH TEENS

THE ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL CHIPS PROGRAM

ChIPS is a vibrant peer support program for young people, by young people. The program offers a wide range of opportunities for members who are 12 (and in high school) to 25 years of age; living with a primary diagnosis of a chronic medical illness; able to attend an intake program + ready and able to participate and function well in a group setting.

We are excited to have CHiPS Program Manager Harry Lengelsen-Brown and 5 young ChiPPERs on board for this Thursday workshop session.

WELLBEING IN THE WORKPLACE

DR HELEN KAMBOURIDIS



Helen is the Lead psychologist for the Royal Children's Hospital Staff Wellbeing Support program. She has worked at the RCH for almost 28 years, with the majority of that time having been spent in the Gatehouse Centre for the Assessment & Treatment of Child Abuse.

Helen's experience and interest in working with relational trauma has fuelled her interest in understanding and working with compassion satisfaction and compassion fatigue. When she's not working collaboratively with staff at RCH to find and nurture what keeps them going in a tough environment, she's spending time with her two Great Danes, her family and her Apple-TV account.

MEDICAL STUDENT WORKSHOPS

DR FREYA BLEATHMAN



Dr Freya Bleathman is a paediatric trainee who is incredibly passionate about medical education. She is the co-founder of the well-known "You're Kidding Right" Podcasts, alongside surgical trainee Dr Anne Atkins. These podcasts are targeted at medical students, junior doctors, junior nurse, general practice trainees and anyone who is interested in learning more about paediatrics!



LORT SMITH PET THERAPY DOGS

LORT SMITH PET THERAPY - WORKPLACE WELLBEING PROGRAM

The Lort Smith Pet Therapy Program has been running for more than 30 years as part of our community outreach services. Volunteers take their specially assessed dogs to hospitals, justice settings and residential care services across Melbourne, providing comfort and relief to people experiencing illness, adversity, loneliness and the long-term impacts of trauma.

Lort Smith Animal Hospital

Evidence suggests interacting with visiting dogs and volunteers can reduce stress and anxiety in clients, alleviate pain and suffering, reduce loneliness, improve motivation for faster recovery and lead to improvements in behaviour, confidence, social skills, mental health and general wellbeing.

Our pet therapy teams also support facility staff, who often work in very challenging environments, as well as the visiting loved ones of patients and residents, who are often very distressed. In these contexts a hug or moment spent connecting with an animal provides much-needed comfort and stress relief.











A CRASH COURSE IN CHILD LIFE THERAPY

CARLIE ALICASTRO



Carlie Alicastro is a Child Life Therapist at The Royal Children's Hospital. She works predominantly in the Medical Imaging Department to engage, educate and empower children and their families during their healthcare experience. Her role as a Child Life Therapist also sees her working as the host and co-producer of the in-house TV show, RCHTV.

She helps to produce peer modelled videos that support children's understanding of hospital experiences. She also hosts the live game show, Hospital Lingo, where inpatients have an opportunity to learn about hospital equipment and have a chance to win a prize. She is currently completing a Master of Child Play Therapy.

A VOICE FOR CHILDREN

PROF LESLIE WHITE AM DSC DUNIV MBBS MHA AFACHSM FRACP



Emeritus Professor Les White was appointed as the inaugural NSW Chief Paediatrician in 2010, a position he held until his retirement in 2016. Les was Executive Director of Sydney Children's Hospital from 1995 to 2010, following a clinical and academic career, with emphasis on childhood cancer. Other positions have included President of Children's Hospitals Australasia (1999-2004) and the John Beveridge Professor of Paediatrics (2005-2010).

He has over 140 publications and many more abstracts, awards, grants and invited presentations in his CV. Les has served 18 not-for-profit boards (6 current), relating to children's health or medical research. He was awarded a Doctorate of Science (1991) for research contributions, a Doctorate of the University Honoris Causa (2019) and an Order of Australia (2007). He has consistently championed the rights and voice of children and young people in healthcare settings. His other continuing interests include health services research, cancer, intellectual disability and service networks. Les is a Patron of Children's Healthcare Australia.



A VOICE FOR GLOBAL HEALTH

DR NIKOLA MORTON



Nikola is a paediatrician and the paediatric advisor for Medecins Sans Frontieres Operational Centre Paris. Having qualified as a medical doctor and paediatrician in Australia, working for 15 years in the Sydney Children's Hospital Network, Nikola first joined Médecins Sans Frontières as a field worker in 2014. She has completed numerous placements as a field paediatrician in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Kenya and Yemen, before joining headquarters in April 2017.

As paediatric advisor, Nikola provides clinical technical support both remotely and in the field for paediatric and newborn care in projects in countries including Lebanon, Yemen, Afghanistan, Jordan, Bangladesh and South Sudan, as well as for emergencies. Nikola continues to work for the Children's Hospital Network as a general paediatrician and is the clinical lead of the HARK refugee service at The Children's Hospital at Westmead.

JENNY DARVAS



Jennifer Darvas is a registered nurse who has worked in the PICU at Children's Hospital Westmead for the past 11 years. She currently combines roles as both a clinical PICU nurse and research nurse with Kids Critical Care Research (KCCR). Prior to this, Jennifer worked in adult critical care for many years.

She has several post graduate educational qualifications, most interestingly a Diploma of Tropical Nursing from the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine in the UK. Jennifer has spent many months over the last decade volunteering with Mercy Ships in several West African nations.

PROF TREVOR DUKE



Prof Trevor Duke is a paediatrician and clinical director of the General Intensive Care Unit at the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne, professor in the University of Melbourne Department of Paediatrics and Professor of Child Health at the School of Medicine and Health Sciences, University of Papua New Guinea.



A VOICE FOR REFUGEE HEALTH

SAAD ALKASSAB



Saad fled war-torn Syria after experiencing the loss of friends and family members. During his teen years of living during the Syrian war, he worked as a humanitarian aider assisting the red cross through the scout movement in assembling and delivering humanitarian relief packages. He later fled for Australia after his scout group was targeted by Assad regime troops and his brother was arrested and tortured.

Saad commenced learning English in a TAFE when he arrived in Melbourne in 2014. He later excelled in high school achieving the dux award after only two years of starting to learn the English language. He has been an active public speaker delivering over 400 talks all around Australia including a TEDx talk in Canberra. He was recognized for his community work when he was awarded The Messenger of Peace award for Asia Pacific by Former Governor Linda Dessau on behalf of The King Of Sweden His Honour Carl XVI Gustaf.

A/PROF GEORGIA PAXTON OAM



Throughout her career Georgia has championed a rights-based approach to healthcare by striving towards the principle that every person, no matter how they arrived in Australia, has an equal opportunity to achieve optimal health and wellbeing.

As the Head of The Royal Children's Hospital Immigrant Health Service, Georgia provides exceptional care to refugee children and their families, representing her patients with courage and conviction. By addressing health inequity, Georgia has made an invaluable contribution to the sustainability of healthcare services for Victoria's culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

Georgia has also devoted much of her time to building the capacity of the Victorian health workforce to better respond to the complex needs of refugees and asylum seekers. She has significantly improved workforce capacity by supervising 16 registrar positions. Remarkably, many of these doctors still work in migrant health.

In 2010, Georgia was awarded the Windermere Health Services Fellowship to develop an electronic health record for refugee health care in Victoria. Subsequently, Georgia's great work was also recognised when the team received an Institute of Public Administration Award in 2015.

Last year, in recognition of her expertise, demonstrated commitment to immigration and humanitarian issues and community representation, Georgia was appointed to the national Minister's Council on Asylum Seekers and Detention.



PROF KAREN ZWI



Professor Karen Zwi is a Consultant Community Paediatrician at Sydney Children's Hospital (SCH), Conjoint Professor at the University of New South Wales (UNSW), Head of the Department of Community Child Health, and the Clinical Director for Priority Populations at Sydney Children's Hospitals Network (SCHN).

She is a practicing Community Paediatrician with clinical expertise in treating children from priority populations such as asylum seekers, refugee children, children in Out of Home Care and Aboriginal children. She believes in developing services that are strengths based, promote equity and resilience, and are effective in improving child health outcomes and the patient and family experience.

A VOICE FOR MENTAL HEALTH

PROF FRANK OBERKLAID AM



Professor Frank Oberklaid, AM, MD, FRACP, DCH, was the Foundation Director of the Centre for Community Child Health at The Royal Children's Hospital – Melbourne for over 25 years. He is currently Co-Group Leader of Child Health Policy, Equity and Translation at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute and an Honorary Professor of Paediatrics at the University of Melbourne. Professor Oberklaid is an internationally recognised researcher, author, lecturer and consultant, and has written two books and over 200 scientific publications on various aspects of paediatrics. For many years he was Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Paediatrics and Child Health, and remains on the editorial boards of a number of international journals.

Professor Oberklaid was co-Chair of an expert working group tasked with developing the National Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy in 2021. He was Chair of the Victorian Children's Council for 12 years, providing expert advice to the Premier and Ministers on child health policies and services for children, and has chaired or been a member of many national health committees, expert working groups and advisory boards. He is especially interested in prevention and early intervention, child mental health and the use of research findings to inform public policy and service delivery. His clinical and research training is in child development and behaviour, and his work as a specialist paediatrician is with children who have developmental and behavioural problems.

Professor Oberklaid has been the recipient of numerous research grants and his work has been acknowledged in the form of a number of prestigious awards, including; 2023 Senior Australian of the Year for Victoria, Member of the Order of Australia in 2018, the Nils Rosen von Rosenstein Medal in 2013 awarded by the Swedish Pediatric Association and Swedish Society of Medicine, a Medal of the Order of Australia in 1998, a Centenary Medal from the Commonwealth of Australia in 2003, the John Sands Medal from the Royal Australasian College of Physicians in 2003, the Chairman's Medal from The Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne in 2003, and the Royal Australasian College of Physicians' Howard Williams Medal in 2009. He is a consultant for UNICEF and WHO, and has had numerous invited international lectureships and visiting professorships.



PROF VALSAMMA EAPEN



Prof Eapen is Professor and Chair of Infant, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, UNSW Sydney, Head of Academic Unit of Child Psychiatry South West Sydney (AUCS). Prof Eapen is also Director of BestSTART Child Health Academic unit; Chair, Faculty of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatry (RANZCP); and Treasurer and President Elect of International Neuropsychiatry Association. Clinically trained in India and the UK, Prof Eapen completed advanced training in Child Psychiatry at the Great Ormond Street Hospital Rotational Scheme and Institute of Child Health, and PhD from University of London with research on Tourette Syndrome undertaken at the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery, Queen Square, London.

Known internationally for expertise in neurodevelopmental disorders such as autism and Tourette Syndrome, Prof Eapen's work has a focus on health equity. Prof Eapen has published over 350 articles, 6 books and 50 book chapters and is currently part of research programs totalling $40M in funding.

Prof Eapen is a member of several international consortiums including the Autism Homozygosity mapping collaborative; International Obsessive Compulsive Disorder Foundation Genetics Collaborative; Psychiatric Genomics Consortium; Executive Committee member of the International Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions (IACAPAP) and Editors-In-Chief IACAPAP Textbook 2.0, Sentinel Reader, McMaster Online Rating of Evidence; Member, Cochrane Developmental, Psychosocial and Learning Problems group; Editorial Board for BMC Psychiatry; and Academic Editor for PLOS One. Prof Eapen served as the Director of Early Years program, Autism Co-operative Research Centre and is the Medical Publicity and Liaison Officer, Tourette Syndrome Association Australia.

PROF VICKI ANDERSON



Dr Anderson is Director, Clinical Sciences Research, Murdoch Children's Research Institute, Professor, Melbourne School of Psychological Science, University of Melbourne, NHMRC Investigator Fellow. Her research and clinical interests are in disorders of childhood that impact on the brain, including both developmental and acquired disorders. Her recent work has focussed on translating her early career findings into clinical practice to optimise child outcomes from brain injury.

Major translational achievements include: i) publication of the Test of Everyday Attention for Children; ii) development of easily accessed, low burden, e-health approaches to parent-focused psychosocial treatments to maximise child outcomes; iii) development of a novel, comprehensive iPad delivered assessment tool for social competence (PEERs: patent pending); iv) digital health tools for monitoring child post concussion symptoms (endorsed in a partnership with the Australian Football league); and v) authorship of the first-ever international paediatric sports concussion guidelines of the International Consensus on Sports Concussion.



DR BIANCA FORRESTER



Dr Bianca Forrester is a regional GP specialising in Adolescent Health and systems change facilitation. As a Senior lecturer at the Department of General Practice, University of Melbourne (DGP UoM) she manages the Doctors in Secondary Schools (DiSS) state-wide clinical training and support program. For Western Victoria Primary Health Network (WVPHN) she is leading the development of a Learning Health Systems approach to health care improvement and workforce development. Bianca has worked as a GP across mainstream primary care, community health and in health services settings.

With her skills in education, systems change facilitation and a depth of experience in diverse clinical systems, she has developed a range of learning and innovation networks for UoM and WVPHN in the areas of COVID-19, Youth Mental health and Women's reproductive health. Her academic interest lies in exploring the use of learning conversations as a research translation tool to support quality improvement, implementation and care model design in primary care.

Using this approach, she led an agile and collaborative health systems response to the COVID-19 pandemic in Western Victoria, with a high impact in relation to service redesign and uptake of novel technologies. She produces the Maze Phase podcast, for primary care professionals working with teens. She is the GP for North Geelong Secondary school and is a member of the Barwon South West Interim Regional Body for the Victorian Mental Health Reform. When she is not working with teens, or trying to "fix the system" she is busy hanging out with her own teenage boys and Paediatrician husband, Mike.

DR ERIC LEVI



Eric is a Consultant Surgeon at Ear Nose & Throat Victoria, St.Vincent's Hospital Melbourne and The Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne. He is also a member of the Salivary Control Clinic, Vascular Anomalies Clinic and Complex Airway group at The Royal Children's Hospital and the multidisciplinary Head & Neck Cancer Clinic at St.Vincent's Hospital.

Eric is an Honorary Fellow at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute and a Clinical Senior Lecturer at The University of Melbourne. With over 50 thousand followers on Twitter, Eric is a household name on #medtwitter and will join us in Melbourne to give us some tips and tricks on how to approach Social Media in Medicine as well as on staff wellbeing!



A/PROF JANE MUNRO



A/Prof Munro is a paediatric rheumatologist and the head of rheumatology at the Royal Children's Hospital, Associate Professor at the University of Melbourne, and senior research fellow at the Murdoch Children's Research Centre. Jane is also on the Victorian Government COVID Taskforce for healthcare worker infection prevention and wellbeing, and is a collaborator on the Pandemic Kindness Movement project.

THE GREAT DEBATE: "Technology takes you further away from the bedside"

KATE RENZENBRINK



Kate is a Registered Nurse with extensive experience in acute care including general medicine and stroke nursing, cardiothoracics, gynaecology and cancer nursing as well as clinical education and aged care. She holds a Bachelor of Health Informatics (Professional Honours) and a Certified Health Informatician Australasia as well as a Digital Health Adviser for the Australian Digital Health Agency. As a Digital Health Nurse Leader, Kate is striving to ensure that Nurses & Midwives have the digital health tools and skills to meet the challenges of contemporary practice. She is a strong advocate for patient-centred care and consumer involvement in healthcare using health IT tools.

DR ANDREW TAGG



Dr Andrew Tagg is an emergency physician with a special interest in paediatrics, and one of the co-founders of the website Don't Forget The Bubbles.

Having escaped the NHS in 2004 to work as a cruise ship doctor, he took the very slow boat to a better life in Australia. Understanding that there is more to life than work is one thing, but doing something about it is very different. He speaks candidly about his own experience with mental ill-health. He has worked with AHPRA, Safer Care Victoria and the Australasian College for Emergency Medicine to help promote joy at work.



DR LAURA RAITI



Dr Laura Raiti is a Paediatric Oncology Fellow currently working at the Royal Children's Hospital. Laura was the 2018 chair of the Australasian Junior Medical Officers' Committee (AJMOC), 2018 Victorian Junior Doctor of the Year, 2018 Postgraduate Medical Council of Victoria (PMCV) JMO forum Chair and is a Board Member of the Confederation of Postgraduate Medical Education Councils (CPMEC).

Laura is a junior doctor representative on the AMC National Internship Framework Review working party and the AMC Specialist Education Accreditation Committee. Laura is also a member of the PMCV accreditation committee, and is a regular surveyor for Victorian health service accreditation visits. She is also part of the Victorian Hospital Doctor's Health and Wellbeing Network, and is passionate about wellbeing and culture change within medicine as well as medical education, training and accreditation.

DR SIMON TAMBLYN



Simon is a recently qualified General Paediatrician and the current Chief Resident Medical officer at Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne where he is a support and advocate for junior medical staff. Having had the benefit of many wonderful teachers and mentors in his life, he has a keen interest in teaching and hopes to continue to be involved in Medical Education. In a previous life he was evacuated off Mt Kilimanjaro, played in the Montreaux Jazz Festival, led tours through the Forbidden City in Beijing and once scored a century for his local cricket club's 3rd team. Today he is the obnoxiously proud father of a chaotic 18 month old and has the sense of humour to match the role.

PROF HASANTHA GUNASEKERA



Has is a Clinical Academic in the University of Sydney's Children's Hospital Westmead Clinical School. He has recently been appointed as a Professor of Paediatric Priority Populations. He has been a key member of the Refugee Health Service at the Children's Hospital Westmead for many years. He is passionate about research and clinical care for priority populations, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and children from refugee backgrounds, and helped establish the Australian Refugee Child Health Network (ARCH). He has been an editor for the Journal of Paediatrics and Child Health for over a decade. He was the convenor for ACAH22: Game Changers, and is the Research Convenor for ACAH23.



PROF KIM OATES AO



Kim is a paediatrician who trained in Sydney, London and Boston. He was the first holder of the University's Douglas Burrows Chair of Paediatrics and Child Health (1985-1997) and was simultaneously Chairman of the Hospital's Division of at the Children's Hospital at Camperdown then at Westmead. He was the Hospital's Chief Executive from 1997-2006.

He then went back to Sydney University to do a total review of the medical curriculum with a colleague from adult medicine. He is an Emeritus Professor of Paediatrics at the University of Sydney. He co-founded a program for identifying and teaching for future medical leaders in Vietnam, for which he was awarded the For People's Health Medal from the Vietnamese Government.

For many years, in spare moments, he has acted in community theatre and has kayaked around the world including Alaska and the Antarctic.

A VOICE FOR CHILDREN IN REMOTE, RURAL & REGIONAL AUSTRALIA

DR BO REMENYI



As a junior doctor working in remote communities, Dr Bo Remenyi was tasked with filling out death certificates for children dying of preventable heart disease. Finding this unfair and unacceptable, Bo spent a further six years studying to become one of Australia's first female paediatric cardiologists. Now an internationally-recognised expert, Bo is tackling the Northern Territory's rate of Rheumatic Heart Disease, which among the Indigenous population is currently the highest in the world. She is the Northern Territory State Recipient of the Australian of the Year Award in 2018.

While primarily a clinician, Bo's ground-breaking PhD research has been published in top tier journals Lancet and Nature Reviews Cardiology, and has seen her assist the American Heart Association and work with the World Heart Federation for global public health projects. Bo also undertakes humanitarian work with Rotary in resource-poor countries in our region. Bo's contribution is even more extraordinary, given she arrived in Australia as a political refugee after fleeing Hungary as a teenager. She started school in Australia without any English language skills, but today Bo's education, expertise and sheer hard work is saving lives.



DR SHABNA RAJAPAKSA



Shabna Rajapaksa is a general paediatrician who graduated with honours from Cambridge University and completed her paediatric training in Nottingham, Oxford and the Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne. She is currently Co- Head of Paediatrics at Grampians Health, Ballarat.

She holds degrees in Neuroscience and a Masters in Medical Education. She is also Deputy Director of Medical Student Education, University of Melbourne at RCS, Ballarat. She is a proud wife, mother to a delightful toddler and one fur baby, flautist and hobby gardener. Shabs is passionate about facilitating teams that enable people to work in brave and honest spaces that enable patient safety.

STEPHANIE DOWDEN



Stephanie Dowden is a Nurse Practitioner in independent practice. She has worked in paediatric healthcare for over 25 years in Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom. Her business, NursePrac Australia, provides health service consulting, health education and a nurse-practitioner-led clinic, Just Kids Health, for babies to teens. In 2021, Stephanie was the Australian College of Nurse Practitioners Mentor of the Year.

A VOICE FOR INDIGENOUS HEALTH

MEENA SINGH



Meena Singh is the Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People in Victoria. She is a Yorta Yorta and Indian woman, born and living on the land of the Kulin Nations. Meena started her legal career with Victoria Legal Aid, where she practised in human rights and criminal law, and was also their inaugural Associate Director, Aboriginal Services.

She has led legal services and programs at the Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service and the Human Rights Law Centre, as well as consulting in training and organisational development across many organisations. She has a passion for centering the voices of people with lived experience and service design that promotes inclusion, connection and ultimately achieve social justice and equitable outcomes.



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The University of Sydney Masters of Medicine (Child and Adolescent Health) course covers a broad range of subjects and is suitable for medical graduates (including Australian and international paediatric trainees, specialists or general practitioners) interested in child and adolescent health. The course is entirely online allowing flexibility from completing a single unit of study without enrolling in a degree to upgrading to a higher award (eg MPhil or PhD), including opportunity to complete a research project within the course.

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The Postgraduate program in Child and Adolescent Health covers a broad range of relevant subjects grounded in an evidence based approach.

The program has been developed by Sydney Medical School's clinical, education and research staff from the Discipline of Child and Adolescent Health. It reflects their breadth of expertise and provides practical tips relating to the care of children and young people.

The course can be taken **part-time or full-time** and is delivered **online** to suit busy working professionals.

This course is highly relevant to:

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Enquiries and to apply

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Handbook

https://www.sydney.edu.au/handbooks/medicine_health_pg/coursework_ac/child_adolescent_health/unit_of_study_table.html

Admission requirements

Admission requires a medical degree. The advanced option is available to students who have completed the requirements for the master's degree with an average mark of at least 75% in 24 credit points of compulsory and/or stream specific units.

The degree structure allows students to **upgrade** to a higher award (eg MPhil and PhD) or **downgrade** and exit the program early provided course requirements are met. It is also possible to complete **a unit of study** without enrolling in a degree. The unit may be credited to a degree within two years of completion.

Compulsory Units of Study

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Evidence and Ethics in Paediatrics	6CP

Stream Specific Units of Study (6CP each)

Neurology	Child development	Adolescent medicine	Allergy and immunology
Neonatal medicine	Nutrition and Obesity	Endocrinology	Emergencies
Common presentations	Evidence and Ethics	Infectious diseases	Gastroenterology

General electives (6CP each) include:

- Independent studies (research)
- Psychiatry in clinical practice
- Child and adolescent mental health
- Diagnostic and screening tests
- Essential dermatology
- Genomics in clinical practice
- Genomics, Omics and medical application
- Leadership in health
- Teaching in the clinical environment
- Pain in children
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