ACADEMY OF CHILD & ADOLESCENT HEALTH

Newsletter September 2026

https://acah.org.au/

admin@acah.org.au

Academy of Child and Adolescent Health

academycah

@AcademyCAH

Dr Lily Chen

Newsletter producer

Chair's Report

Welcome to this edition of the ACAH newsletter! It serves to keep you up to date on key activities and initiatives and to introduce members of the ACAH.

The recent webinar Caught in the Crossfire: Safeguarding Children in Times of War (9 September 2026) addressed critical issues in protecting and delivering health care to children in conflict zones. Key Australian panel members also reflected on major initiatives including advocacy and clinical care for children seeking refuge in Australia.

Working in low and middle income countries and with organisations like Medecin Sans Frontieres can be a rewarding a rich experience for professionals of all career stages, including paediatric trainees. Gaining experience in other countries, including low and middle income countries, can not only benefit the individual trainee or health professional but aLao our wider community.

Some of the panel members have started to discuss how to reinvigorate these programmes for trainees, building on past successful experiences. We would love to hear from any of you who might have worked in these situations to learn about what worked and the issues that need to be considered.

As I draft this Chair's Report, I am flying back from Vietnam. I had the opportunity to travel there with Hoc Mai organisation that supports professional development of Vietnamese doctors and nurses. It was eye opening in many respects for me, as I hadn't had this opportunity before now.

I met with paediatricians and psychologists at National CHildren's Hospital and toured the hospital. It was a large and very busy hospital, many times the size of a typical hospital in Australia. There are fewer resources than we are used to yet the staff were enthusiastic and capable.

I am aware that there are a number of ACAH members who are involved with international child health work- please let us know what you are doing and how the ACAH can provide support.

Enjoy reading about ACAH activities and members. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us if you have suggestions, comments or advice admin@acah.org.au.

Jacqueline Small
Chair ACAH Board

ACAH 27

ACADEMY OF CHILD & ADOLESCENT HEALTH

A Shared Vision

6-8th May 2027

Sydney, NSW

ACAH27

Academy of Child & Adolescent Health

A Shared Vision

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Present research that advances the health and wellbeing of newborn, children and young people. All health disciplines and non-members welcome. The program will draw on diverse voices to address the clinical, health and social policy issues facing children and adolescents.

6-8 May 2027

Aerial Function Centre, Sydney

30 Nov 2026
Submissions open

6 Feb 2027
Abstracts close

20 Feb 2027
Decisions finalised

ACAH Research Prize	**$1,000**	Open to all registrants
Higher Degree Prize	**$500**	Open to any PhD or Masters by research candidate currently enrolled, or awarded within 1 year of conference start date.
Trainee Prize	**$500**	Open to anyone training to be a member of one of the child and adolescent health medical, nursing or allied health professions.
Allied Health Prize	**$500**	Open to allied health professionals
Student Prize	**$500**	Open to any health student (medical, nursing, allied health or equivalent).

For abstract submission requirements and the latest updates, visit:
acah.org.au/sydney-conference-2027/

acah.org.au | company/academy-of-child-adolescent-health | academycah | @AcademyCAH

ACAH acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we live, work and gather.
We pay our respect to Elders past and present and extend respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.

Agenda

Day 1: Thursday 6th May

Time	Stream 1	Stream 2
9:00	Conference opening	
9:30	Plenary: Health and wellbeing of children in Australia	
10:30	Panel: Impact of the Australian social media ban for children under 16 years old	
11:30	Morning tea	
12:00	Unravelling rare diseases: Paediatrician contributions to 35 years of the Australian Paediatric Surveillance Unit	Research presentations
13:00	Lunch	
14:00	Panel: Top 3 research papers and discussion	Research presentations
15:15	Afternoon tea	
15:45	Plenary: Decontextualised diagnosis and impact for children and families	
16:15	Can we move away from medicalisation and disorderism?	

Day 2: Friday 7th May

Time	Stream 1	Stream 2
8:30	Plenary: Child and adolescent health in Australia and New Zealand	
9:30	Panel: Climate change	
10:30	Morning tea	
11:00	Plenary: Early diagnosis of cerebral palsy	
11:30	Panel: Exploring the most important issues for young people.	
12:30	Lunch	
13:15	Symposium: Rare diseases	
14:00	Panel: Wellbeing and education: partners in care	
14:45	Afternoon tea	
15:15	Symposium: Population vaccine rates and vaccine hesitancy	Research presentations
16:15	Indigenous health	

Day 3: Saturday 8th May

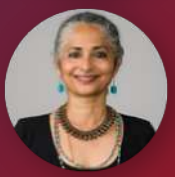
Time	Stream 1
8:30	Plenary: Social prescribing
9:00	Panel: Integrated models of care and social prescribing
10:00	Morning tea
10:30	Plenary: Neuroimmunology
11:00	Panel: Reading books and storytelling for children
12:00	Close and wrap up
12:45	Lunch
14:00	Trainee and student: Narrative Medicine
15:00	Trainee and student: Speed dating
15:30	Trainee and student: Clinical pearls

ACAH27 Convenors

Dr Jacqueline Small
ACAH Chair

Dr Devin Deo

Dr Amelia Lewis



Prof Shanti Raman

Dr Sahani Jayawardane

Special Guest Speakers

Dr Tycho J. Dekkers

Psychologist and senior researcher at University Medical Center Groningen/Accare Child Study Center.

Dr Dekkers is an expert coordinator for ADHD at Levvel, Academic Center for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. His research primarily focuses on children and adolescents with ADHD and behavioral issues. His research interests include the effectiveness of psychosocial ADHD interventions, examining the potential negative effects of receiving an ADHD diagnosis, and risk-taking behaviors in adolescents with ADHD. Tycho is also an editor for Child and Adolescent Mental Health and the Journal of Attention Disorders.

Professor Michael Kidd AO

Chief Medical Officer for Australia

Professor Kidd is the Chief Medical Officer for Australia. He also holds appointments as Director of the International Centre for Future Health Systems at the University of New South Wales, and as Professor of Global Primary Care and Future Health Systems at the University of Oxford. He is a past President of both the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners and the World Organization of Family Doctors.

Professor Dame Helen Stokes-Lampard

National Clinical Chief Medical Officer for Health New Zealand / Te Whatu Ora and Specialist General Practitioner (GP)

Professor Stokes-Lampard, has been the National Clinical Chief Medical Officer for Health New Zealand / Te Whatu Ora since November 2024 and also works as a Specialist General Practitioner (GP). Until late 2024 she lived in the UK and was an NHS GP, Professor of GP Education at the University of Birmingham and a Non-Executive Director on the board of NHS England. She has held several prestigious positions in the medical field, most notably serving as the Chair of the UK Academy of Medical Royal Colleges (AoMRC 2020-2023) and Chair of the Royal College of General Practitioners (2016-2019). She was the founding Chair of the National Academy for Social Prescribing, founding Chair of the Dames Commander Society and a trustee at Macmillan Cancer. Her personal clinical interests include holistic approaches to health and care, disease prevention, authentic medical leadership and embracing innovation in healthcare in safe responsible ways. Her contributions were recognised by award of DBE (New Year Honours 2022).

Professor Paul Kelly

Founder and Principal, PK Public Health Advisory; Honorary Enterprise Professor, University of Melbourne

Professor Kelly is a widely recognized leader in population health with over three decades of experience spanning communicable and non-communicable disease control, public health policy and health emergency management. He was Australia's Chief Medical Officer (2020–2024) where he was the primary medical advisor to the Australian Government through the COVID-19 pandemic and led major national reforms in environmental health, climate change policy, and communicable disease control.

Meet our expert speakers

Professor Andrew Baillie

BSc(Hons) UNSW, MPsychol(Clin) UNSW, PhD Macq, FCCLP

Professor Baillie is a clinical psychologist, Professor of Allied Health with Sydney Local Health District (SLHD), and Senior Advisor with Sydney Health Partners. He works in SLHD to build Allied Health Research Capacity and with Sydney Health Partners on their Implementation Science Academy and Clinical Academic Groups. He also works with Drug Health Services at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and the Psychology Team at Sydney Virtual.

Shankari Chandran

Writer and lawyer; 2023 Miles Franklin Literary Award

Shankari Chandran is an Australian Tamil writer and lawyer. Shankari is the winner of the 2023 Miles Franklin Literary Award for Chai Time at Cinnamon Gardens and has published five novels. Her next book, Daughters of the Red Earth (Ultimo Press, 2027) focuses on religious extremism and its intersection with ethno-nationalism and transcendence. Shankari has previously led the pro bono legal teams for Allen & Overy (globally) and Ashurst (Australia).

Professor Elizabeth Elliott MD FRACP FRCP FRCPCH

University of Sydney and Consultant Paediatrician at the Sydney Children's Hospitals Network.

Professor Elliott leads the NSW fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD) assessment service. In 1993, she established the Australian Paediatric Surveillance Unit and remains its Director. APSU has conducted over 75 studies on rare childhood diseases that have informed policy and practice. She was instrumental with colleagues from the UK and Canada in developing the International Network of Paediatric Surveillance Units and was elected Convenor in 2000. Her research, clinical work and advocacy involve disadvantaged children living with rare diseases, in remote Aboriginal communities, in immigration detention and in South East Asia. FASD has been a major focus and she chairs the Australian Government's FASD Advisory Group.

Elizabeth is an elected Fellow of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Science and the Royal Society of NSW. She was made an Officer of the Order of Australia in the 2026 King's Birthday Honours.

Professor Sharon Goldfeld

Director, Centre for Community Child Health (CCCH) the Royal Children's Hospital, and Theme Director, Population Health at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute

Professor Goldfeld has a decade of experience in state government as a senior policymaker in the Victorian health and education departments. Her research program is made up of complementary, synergistic and cross-disciplinary streams of work focused on investigating, testing, and translating sustainable policy relevant solutions that eliminate inequities for children. In 2024 she received an Order of Australia (AM) and was elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences (AAHMS).

Dr Karl Pobre

Paediatric emergency Staff specialist and Paediatrician, CHW; Motivated for Change ED Lead

Dr Karl Pobre is a Paediatric Emergency Physician and Co-Director of Emergency Medical training at The Children's Hospital at Westmead. He leads Motivated for Change, a multidisciplinary, co-designed program focused on improving the experience, safety and quality of emergency care for children with disability and their families.

Dr Manjekah Dunn

Advanced metabolic and clinical genetics trainee; PhD candidate

Dr Manjekah is an advanced metabolic and clinical genetics trainee and PhD candidate researching accessible and inclusive genomic testing for people with intellectual disability. Her work bridges research and clinical practice, co-producing practical resources with people with intellectual disability and health professionals to drive equitable genomic healthcare.

Professor Nadia Badawi AM

Medical Director and Co-Head of the Grace Centre at Westmead and Cerebral Palsy Alliance Chair of Research at the University of Sydney

Professor Nadia Badawi AM is a world leader in neonatal care whose work has helped transform outcomes for Australia's most vulnerable infants. As Medical Director and Co-Head of the Grace Centre at Westmead and Cerebral Palsy Alliance Chair of Research at the University of Sydney, she has led research and clinical initiatives contributing to a 40% reduction in the incidence and severity of cerebral palsy in Australia. Her work continues to shape care, policy and outcomes for children worldwide.

Felicity Wright, PhD

Director of Pharmacy, Sydney Children's Hospital; Net Zero Clinical Lead

Dr Felicity Wright trained as a paediatric cellular therapy and oncology pharmacist, is a Board Certified Oncology Pharmacist (USA), and holds an MPH Policy and PhD in pharmacogenetics. She leads pharmacy across clinical, production and leadership domains, driving pharmacy-led models of care, specialised production, and automation to improve efficiency, quality and workforce sustainability.

Professor Ju Lee Oei

Inaugural Chair of Neonatology, Mater; Conjoint Professor UNSW

Professor Ju Lee Oei is the inaugural Chair of Neonatology at Mater. She has extensive expertise in newborn resuscitation and in the care of families affected by drug dependency, and is Conjoint Professor at UNSW. She has authored more than 190 papers and contributes to state, national and international neonatal guidelines.

Professor Raghu Lingam

Paediatrician, population health researcher and Professor of Paediatric Population Health, UNSW Sydney.

Professor Lingam leads the Population Child Health and Health Services Research Group at UNSW and the GenV Intervention Hub, a national platform within Generation Victoria that accelerates the development, testing and implementation of interventions to improve outcomes for children and families at scale.

His research focuses on prevention, health-system innovation, integrated care and implementation science, with the goal of improving child health outcomes and reducing inequities. Working across primary care, community, hospital and policy settings, he develops and evaluates models of care that strengthen health systems and support children and young people to thrive.

Professor Sue Woolfenden

Director of Community Paediatrics; co-chair, Sydney Institute for Women, Children and their Families, SLHD; Professor of Community Paediatrics, University of Sydney

Professor Woolfenden is Director of Community Paediatrics and co-chair the Sydney Institute for Women, Children and their Families at Sydney Local Health District and Professor of Community Paediatrics at the University of Sydney. Her clinical, service development and research work addresses child health inequities in Australia and globally through integrated health–social care models, including hubs and social prescribing working in partnership with Priority Populations. She has > 200 publications.

Professor Shanti Raman, MBBS, FRACP, MAE, PhD

Director- Department of Community Paediatrics, South Western Sydney Local Health District
Senior Clinical Advisor-Child & Family Health, NSW Ministry of Health, Conjoint Professor, University of New South Wales, School of Women's & Children's Health

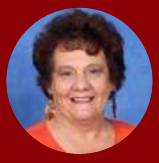
Shanti Raman is a Consultant Paediatrician, with training in epidemiology and public health. As the Director of Community Paediatrics - South Western Sydney, she is responsible for clinical services in Child Development and Child Protection across the region, providing leadership and directing research and training. In her Ministry of Health role, she supports the quality, safety, and integration of child and family health services through the development of statewide healthcare policy. Her research and teaching interests include health of migrants and refugees, indigenous child health, child rights and child maltreatment, quality and safety in health, global maternal, newborn and child health. She is involved with policy development at State, national and international levels promoting a rights-based perspective to child health and child rights. She is the Editor-in-Chief of BMJ Paediatrics Open; over the past two years the journal has pioneered several specialised collections that explore critical issues impacting child and youth health globally.

On the community engagement front, Dr Raman has been involved with a range of civil society organisations, responding to social justice, gender issues, human rights and support to refugee and migrant groups.

Dr Amelia Lewis

Senior Clinical Neuropsychologist at the Disability Specialist Unit, Sydney Local Health District and a Board Member of the Academy of Child and Adolescent Health.

Dr Amelia Lewis holds a Doctorate of Clinical Neuropsychology and a Master of Philosophy (Psychology) from Macquarie University as well as a Master of Health Policy from the University of Sydney. She is also a traditionally-published children's picture book author. With over a decade of experience supporting children and adolescents with neurodevelopmental differences and disabilities, she brings expertise in clinical neuropsychology, clinical research, and health policy alongside a deep commitment to child and family-centred care. Her work is guided by a passion for storytelling that fosters connection, identity, and joy.

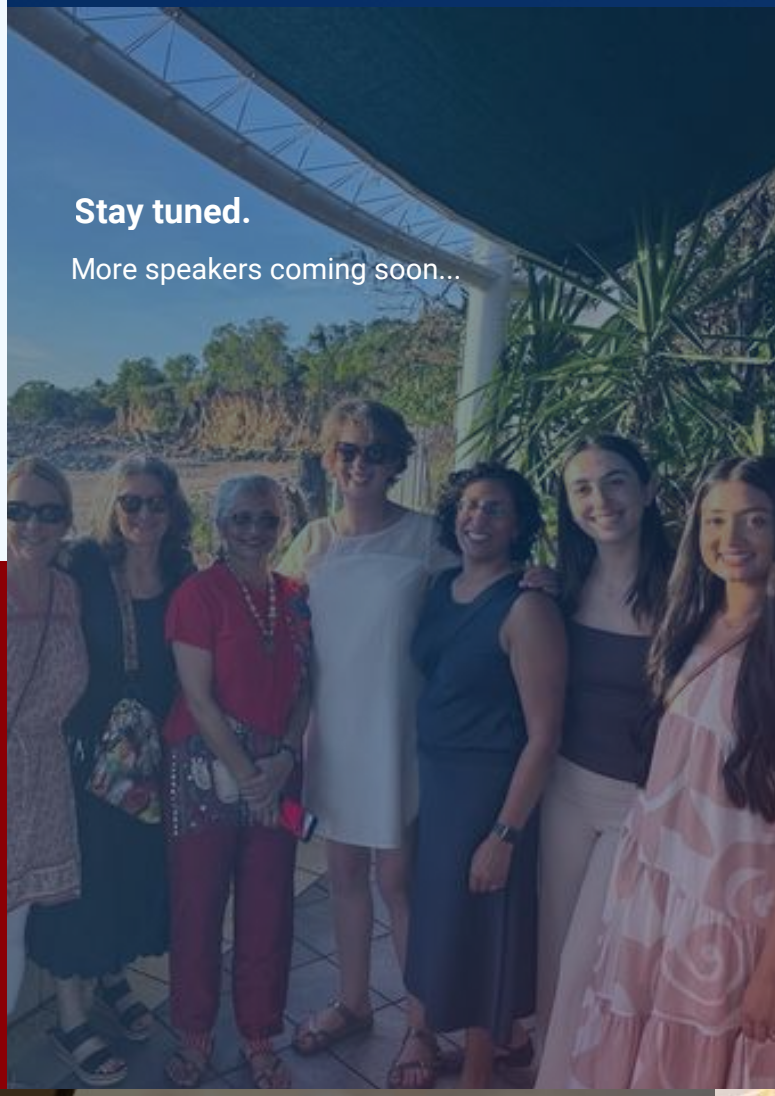


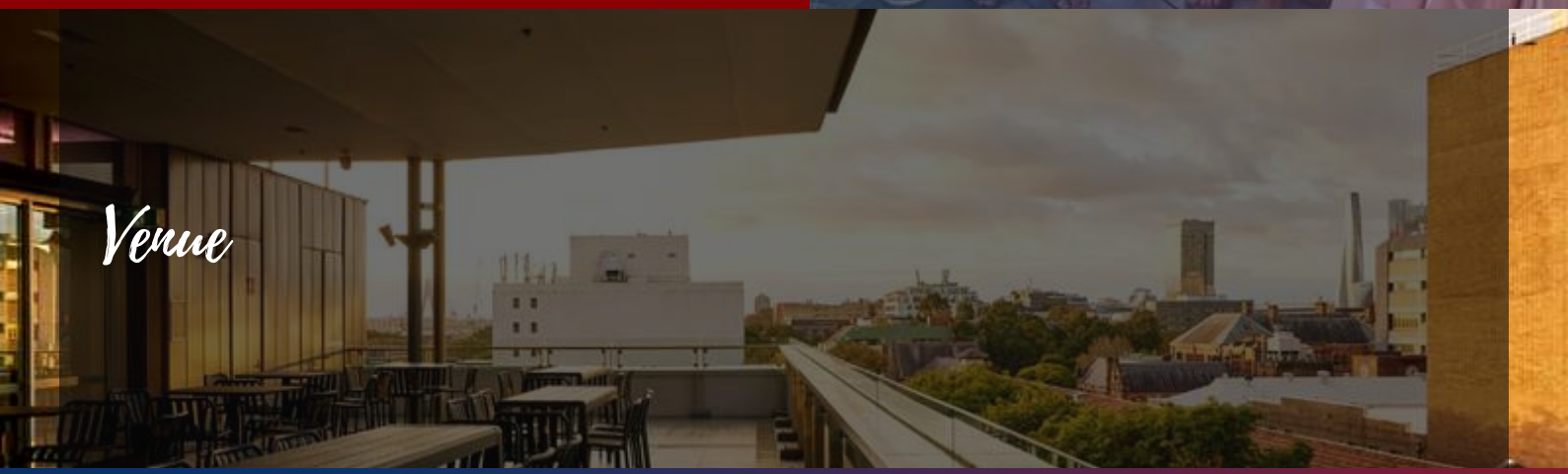
Lesley Bruce

Principal, Cairnsfoot Special School, Brighton Le Sands

During her forty working years with the Department of Education, she has gained vast experience in the following fields of education – Early Childhood, Primary and Special Education.

As Principal of Cairnsfoot, she is committed to supporting students with complex needs and their families by working through an interagency model. Her knowledge in working with students with disability and their families, is regularly sought by her mainstream colleagues.





Aerial Function Centre, Sydney

University of Technology, Sydney campus, Ultimo.

Located in the heart of Sydney at the University of Technology Sydney (UTS) campus, Aerial Function Centre is an award-winning conference and events venue renowned for its stunning rooftop setting, modern facilities and panoramic views of the Sydney skyline and Darling Harbour. Offering flexible, pillarless event spaces accommodating up to 450 delegates, Aerial is ideally suited to conferences, exhibitions, workshops, networking events and gala functions. The venue features multiple configurable function rooms, expansive outdoor terraces, state-of-the-art audiovisual capabilities and premium catering services, providing a seamless experience for organisers and delegates alike.

Conveniently located within walking distance of Central Station and Sydney's major accommodation precincts, Aerial combines accessibility, flexibility and exceptional event delivery, making it an ideal venue for national conferences and professional gatherings. For ACAH 2027, Aerial provides a vibrant and contemporary setting that supports collaboration, learning and connection, offering delegates a memorable conference experience in the heart of Sydney

Research Prizes

Submit an abstract for ACAH27

We welcome submissions from everyone working in child and adolescent health. Accepted abstracts are considered for oral presentation (8 minutes plus questions) and for prizes. Presenters must be registered for the conference.

ACAH Research Prize
$1000
Open to all registrants.

Trainee Prize
$500
Open to anyone training to be a member of one of the child and adolescent health medical, nursing or allied health professions.

Higher Degree Prize
$500
Open to any PhD or Masters by research candidate currently enrolled, or awarded within 1 year of conference start date.

Allied Health Prize
$500
Open to allied health professionals.

Student Prize
$500
Open to any health student (medical, nursing, allied health or equivalent.

Evidence of eligibility for the student, trainee and higher degree prizes will be required if your abstract is accepted.

Priority themes

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health
- Refugee health
- Child and/or adolescent health (considered broadly)
- Climate change and children
- Advocacy, population health
- Mental health

SUBMIT ABSTRACT

acah.org.au/home/abstracts-submission/

Structured abstracts (Background, Methods, Results, Conclusions) must be limited to 350 words.

Registrations opening soon

ACAH 27

Conference: A Shared Vision

6–8 May 2027 • Sydney, NSW

Be first to know.
Register your interest: acah.org.au/sydney-conference-2027
Event enquiries: admin@acah.org.au
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View Sponsorship Prospectus

Beyond a Label

Rethinking Disorderism in Child Mental Health

A review on the commentary – "Are we over-pathologising young people's mental health? Locked inside our own building – on disorderism and the need to deflate our language"

This commentary offers a thoughtful and timely reflection on the growing concern that youth mental health is increasingly dominated by pathologising language. Van Hulst, Groen-Blokhuyis, de Ridder and Dekkers argue that this dominance of diagnostic labels fosters 'disorderism'. They define disorderism as "a relative neglect of context, introduced by the tendency to interpret people's struggles through the lens of disorders of the individual". The authors highlight that while diagnostic labels play important roles in communication, research and access to care, they risk narrowing our understanding of children's lived experience and struggles. They further note that diagnostic labels "cling to reality in ways that actively shape reality", and that their meaning shifts over time, contributing to risks such as stigma and pathologising everyday behaviour.

The author's proposed solution is to "deflate" diagnostic language through "epistemic humility". Rather than discarding labels entirely, they advocate reducing some of their weight and certainty. Suggested directions include actively communicating that diagnostic labels do not refer to underlying causes but serve as a starting point for further exploration and modifying terms to make them sound less deterministic.

This topical conversation will continue at ACAH 2027, where co-author Tycho Dekkers will speak further on disorderism and the future of diagnostic language in child mental health, followed by a panel discussion to further explore this important issue

Van Hulst, B. M., Groen-Blokhuis, M. M., de Ridder, B., & Dekkers, T. J. (2025). Commentary: Are we over-pathologising young people's mental health? Locked inside our own building – on disorderism and the need to deflate our language. Child and Adolescent Mental Health, 30(4), 397–399. https://doi.org/10.1111/camh.70028

When young people ask AI first

A clinical guide to assessing and responding to youth AI use

26
Nov 2026

Presenter: Dr Erika Penney (~30 mins + questions)
Chair: Dr Amelia Lewis
When: Thursday 26 November 2026, 6:00-7:00pm AEDT
Format: Zoom webinar
→ Register here

Artificial intelligence is rapidly becoming part of everyday life for children and young people, with many now turning to AI tools for health information, self-diagnosis, wellbeing support, and advice before speaking with a healthcare professional. For paediatric clinicians, understanding how young people are using these technologies is becoming an essential component of contemporary practice.

In this timely webinar chaired by ACAH Board Member Dr Amelia Lewis, Dr Erika Penney provides a practical, evidence-informed framework to help clinicians assess and respond to young people's use of AI in health contexts. Participants will explore when AI use may be beneficial, benign, or potentially harmful, and learn strategies for initiating open, non-judgemental conversations that encourage disclosure rather than driving use underground.

Dr Penney is a nationally recognised leader in digital mental health and AI education, bringing extensive experience as an educator, researcher, clinician, and advisor to government. Her expertise makes this an invaluable opportunity for paediatric health professionals seeking to understand the opportunities, risks, and clinical implications of emerging AI technologies.

As AI becomes increasingly embedded in the lives of young people, clinicians need the skills and confidence to engage with this new reality. This webinar offers practical guidance for supporting safe, collaborative, and youth-centred care in an increasingly digital world.

When young people ask AI first

A clinical guide to assessing and responding to youth AI use

Dr Erika Penney

Dr Erika Penney is the Principal of Schema Therapy & Supervision Australia, Honorary Academic with the University of Technology Sydney, and Ex-President of the Australian Clinical Psychology Association. She is a nationally recognised educator on artificial intelligence in healthcare; an invited consultant for the Therapeutic Goods Administration's Digital Mental Health Tools Advisory Group; the recipient of two UTS Vice Chancellor's Teaching Awards for inter-professionalism and digital technologies in mental health; and recipient of a national AAUT citation for outstanding contribution to student learning.

Dr Amelia Lewis

Dr Amelia Lewis is the Senior Clinical Neuropsychologist and Team Leader at the Disability Specialist Unit, Sydney Local Health District. With over a decade of experience supporting children and adolescents with neurodevelopmental differences and disabilities, she brings expertise in clinical neuropsychology, research, and health policy. Amelia's work is guided by systems thinking, collaboration, and child-and-family-centred care. She is deeply committed to promoting the wellbeing of children and young people, as well as their families and communities.

ACAH Webinar Updates

Upcoming Webinars

When young people ask AI first: A clinical guide to assessing and responding to youth AI use

10 Sep 2026

Thursday 26th November 2026

This workshop explores the current scope of youth AI use in health contexts, and gives clinicians a practical framework for assessing when that use is helpful, neutral, or harmful.

→ Register here

AI Ethics and Law: Responsibility of clinicians in direct patient care

03 Dec 2026

Thursday 3rd December 2026

This webinar will address AI ethics and law and the responsibility of clinicians in direct patient care.

→ Register here

Please contact us to suggest topics or speakers (such as international experts visiting Australia) for webinars, your contributions are very welcome.

These webinars are recorded for later viewing by members. Join ACAH to get access to these.

Who is the ACAH?

Reflections from members

Dr Nick Fancourt

Dr Nick Fancourt is a Staff Specialist in the Department of General Medicine at the Children's Hospital at Westmead and a Senior Lecturer at the University of Sydney, where he is also a Horizon Fellow researching global child pneumonia. He completed his PhD at Johns Hopkins University as an International Fulbright Science and Technology Fellow, working on the multinational Pneumonia Etiology Research for Child Health (PERCH) study, and trained in paediatrics in Auckland, Melbourne, Sydney and Darwin. He leads an NHMRC-funded clinical trial on pneumococcal conjugate vaccination in children with severe acute malnutrition in Timor-Leste, building on several years based in the Northern Territory and Timor-Leste with the Menzies School of Health Research.

ACAH 26 MOMENTS

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Meet the Board

Dr Jacqueline Small, Chair
Jacki is a Community Child Health Consultant in SLHD and has over 27 years experience in multidisciplinary teams for children with developmental disabilities. She was RACP President/Board Chair 2022-2024 and President Australian Association Developmental Disability Medicine (2015-2020).

Dr Has Gunasekera, Treasurer
Has is a Clinical Academic and Professor of Paediatric Priority Populations at CHW and University of Sydney. He is engaged in research with ACCHOs and worked in Health Assessment for Refugee Kids clinic for over two decades.

Dr Kim Oates AO
Kim is a paediatrician who trained across 3 countries and was the first holder of University of Sydney's Chair of Paediatrics and Child Health (1985-1997) and subsequently, CE from 1997-2006. Kim retains his international reputation as an expert in child abuse and neglect and as a teacher of medical students.

Simone Sherriff
Simone is a Wotjobaluk woman who lives and works on Wiradjuri country and is a Research Fellow at the Poche Centre for Indigenous Health at Sydney University. Simone has extensive experience working in the Aboriginal community-controlled health sector in NSW and has worked with Aboriginal community organisations for the last 15 years on health research and the implementation of services around key priority areas for communities. Simone's research interests are around food security, breastfeeding, and child health.

Dr Anysha Walia
Anysha is a paediatric trainee in Victoria and was shortlisted as Intern of the year in 2022. She has been active in the ACAH since she was a medical student and was co-convenor of ACAH2023. She is a volunteer for Water Well project and involved in refugee health research.

Meet the Board

Dr Devin Deo

Devin is a Paediatric Trainee at The Children's Hospital at Westmead, NSW. He completed his undergraduate medical degree from The University of Newcastle in 2020, before completing his internship in rural Taree. He is currently the President of the Kids Resident Medical Officer Association at Westmead Kids and also a member of the Clinical Council of the Sydney Children's Hospital Network. Devin also serves as the Hospital Representative for Westmead Kids in the Australian Medical Association NSW Doctors-In-Training Committee.

Peter Barclay

Peter is the Sydney Children's Hospitals Network Director of Pharmacy. Having worked as a Hospital Pharmacist for over 40 years, Peter is passionate about enabling access to appropriate medications for children and families and removing barriers that exist in the health system. Actively engaged in the provision of precision medicines including gene therapies for children at SCHN. Peter is experienced using pharmacy technology to deliver patient safety and business efficiency. He has been a strong advocate for the role of Hospital Pharmacists as clinicians, advocates for patient safety, efficient pharmaceutical procurers and key stakeholders in medication related clinical governance.

Dr Amelia Lewis

Amelia is the Senior Clinical Neuropsychologist at the Disability Specialist Unit, Sydney Local Health District. With over a decade of experience supporting children and adolescents with neurodevelopmental differences and disabilities, she brings expertise in clinical neuropsychology, research, and health policy. Amelia's work is guided by systems thinking, collaboration, and child-and-family-centred care. She is deeply committed to promoting the wellbeing of children and young people, as well as their families and communities.

Dr Davina Buntsma

Davina is an an early career fellow working in Adolescent Medicine, Aboriginal Health and Refugee & Immigrant Health. She holds consultant positions at the Royal Children's Hospital, Monash Health and the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service. She is passionate about children of all backgrounds in Australia and New Zealand achieving equitable access to opportunities which will support them to reach their full social, emotional and health potential.