MACH Aboriginal Health Showcase 2026

Healthy Koorie Communities

23-24 March

Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre
Level 7, 305 Grattan St Melbourne and online

Day 1 Program

Monday 23 March

8.30am	**Registration**	
9.00am	**Welcome to Country**	
9.10am	**Opening address**	**Uncle Graham Atkinson** *Co-chair, MACH Aboriginal Leadership Group* **Professor Shawana Andrews** *Melbourne Poche Centre for Indigenous Health*
9:15am	**Artwork presentation**	**Anjee-Lee Bamblett**
9.20am	***Session 1: Equity and Culturally Safe Healthcare (Lecture Theatre B)*** Chair: Professor Shawana Andrews – *Melbourne Poche Centre for Indigenous Health*	
9.25am	**Keynote presentation** Strengthening Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander medical, health & wellbeing research praxis through the right to truth	**Professor Karen Adams** *Director of the Gukwonderuk Indigenous Health Workforces Centre, Monash University*
9.55am	**Panel discussion** Chair: Candice McKenzie *Royal Melbourne Hospital*	**Professor Kerry Arabena** – *Karabena Consulting* **Dan Carter** – *Monash Health* **Troy Jennings** – *La Trobe Regional Health* **Nicole Watt** – *St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne*
10.25am	**BREAK – Jarrah Catering**	

MACH Melbourne Academic Centre for Health

In partnership with:

Monash Partners HEALTH TRANSLATION NETWORK

Western Alliance Academic Health Science Centre

10.45am	***Session 2: Concurrent***	
	Lecture Theatre B ***Co-Design and Partnering with Community*** Chair: Natalie Bloomfield – *Northern Health*	**Lecture Theatre C** ***Strengthening Emergency Care Pathways*** Chair: Bonnie Chew – *ALG Executive Member*
10.50am	More than a meal: Co-designed improvements to hospital food for First Nations hospital inpatients **Tanya Druce** **Vanessa Carter** *Western Health*	From Triage to Trust: Embedding Indigenous Health Equity in Emergency Care **Dr Rachel Goh** **Nicole Watt** **Dr Iulia Ioan-Balota** *St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne*
11.00am	Ngagagee Ngulu Murrup Durra – A Victorian Aboriginal specialist healing service response to healing child sexual abuse **Associate Professor Graham Gee** *University of Melbourne*	Creating culturally safe care pathways for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people in a regional emergency department **Jessica Payne** **Karina Demasson** *Grampians Health*
11.10am	First Nations Community Panels: A Public Health Governance Model Tested through Bird Flu Preparedness **Bryony Roberts** **Steph Walker** *First Nations Pandemic Research Preparedness Network (FIRST); Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity*	Emergency care for First Nations peoples: Protocol for review of Ambulance Use and Emergency Department Presentations at Monash Health **Nathan Hawke** *Monash Health*
11.20am	Reclaiming Birthing on Country: Strengthening Sovereignty and Self-Determination in Indigenous Maternity Care **Colleen Kelly** *Monash University*	A mixed methods evaluation of the accessibility experience and effectiveness of virtual emergency care for First Nations patients **Nicole Watt** **Hayley Pepper** *St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne*
11.30am	Yarn with presenters	Yarn with presenters
12.00pm	**LUNCH – Jarrah Catering**	

12.50pm	***Session 3: Indigenous-Led Prevention for Culturally Safe Care (*Lecture Theatre B)** Chair: Associate Professor Nicole Mercer – *Deakin University*	
12.55pm	Out Proud 'n' Blak: Aboriginal Rainbow Elders' experiences of discrimination in healthcare contexts and their perspectives on advancing culturally safer healthcare services in Australia, Victoria	**Uncle Harold Douglas** **Kate Bradley** *The University of Melbourne*
13.05pm	First Nations–led Diabetes Prevention and Care Through the Aboriginal Health Innovation Initiative (AHII): A Partnership Between Bayside Health – Peninsula Care Group (PCG) and First Peoples' Health and Wellbeing (FPHW)	**Kunal Mahajan** *Bayside Health, Peninsula Care Group* **Briony Lamprecht** **Sharyn Margheriti** *First Peoples' Health and Wellbeing*
13.15pm	Bone health perspectives among Indigenous people: findings from SIMBA-ED	**Associate Professor Ayse Zengin** *Monash University*
13.25pm	Guided Self-Determination: Implementing a co-designed communication intervention for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living with type 2 diabetes	**Tim Druce** *Deakin University* **Sharon Croft**
13.35pm	Co-designing Yorga Moorditj Koort: A heart disease risk reduction program for Indigenous women who do not have heart disease	**Tabassum Rahman** **Professor Sandra Eades** **Cathy Garlett** *The University of Melbourne*
13.45pm	Yarn with presenters	
14.10pm	**BREAK**	
14.30pm	***Session 4: Concurrent***	
	Lecture Theatre B ***Building Trust and Capability*** Natalie Bloomfield – *Northern Health*	**Lecture Theatre C** ***Strengthening Systems for Culturally Safe Care*** Chair: Bonnie Chew – *ALG Executive Member*
14:35pm	Seeding Culturally Safe Service and Research Projects for Equitable Health Futures **Candice McKenzie** **Emma Tumilty** *Royal Melbourne Hospital*	Qualitative outcomes from a pilot First Nations Cancer Coordination program: perspectives of First Nations patients and families **Tanya Druce** *Western Health* **Mollie Wilson** *St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne; The University of Melbourne*

14.45pm	The Staphylococcus aureus Network Adaptive Platform (SNAP) Trial - Cultural Information Hub: Embedding cultural safety in a clinical research setting **Professor Steven Tong** *The University of Melbourne*	First Nations Cancer Coordinator: Translating an implementation toolkit into practice **Marissa Mulcahy** *VACCHO* **Mollie Wilson** *St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne; The University of Melbourne*
14.55pm	Building Clinician Capability for Culturally Safe Virtual Healthcare with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples **Andrew Morrison** **Casey Kiss** *Northern Health*	Building culturally safe systems: SEWB workforce pathways and a Victorian Aboriginal Cancer Coordination Model **Marissa Mulcahy** *VACCHO* **Christopher Smith** **Eleanor Doran** *Impact Co*
15.05pm	Yarn with presenters	Yarn with presenters
15.25pm	**BREAK**	
	Return to Lecture Theatre B	
15.30pm	Closing Remarks	**Uncle Graham Atkinson**
15.40pm	**End Day 1**	

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Day 2 Program

Tuesday 24 March (Lecture Theatre B)

8.30am	**Registration**	
9.00am	**Welcome to Country**	
9.10am	**Opening address**	**Uncle Graham Atkinson** *Co-chair, MACH Aboriginal Leadership Group* **Professor Shawana Andrews** *Melbourne Poche Centre for Indigenous Health*
9.20am	***Session 1: Making Change and Thriving in Health*** Chair: Uncle Graham Atkinson – *MACH Aboriginal Leadership Group*	
9.25am	**Keynote presentation** The Gift of Curiosity: Systems Change and Sustainability	**Aunty Lorraine Parsons** *The University of Melbourne*
9.45am	**Panel discussion** Chair: Kendra Keleher – *Monash Health*	**Karen Bryant** – *Northern Health* **Darren Burns** – *Grampians Health* **Chris Delamont** – *Western Health* **Kira Doyle-Venes** – *Grampians Health* **Selena White** – *Royal Children's Hospital*
10.15am	***Session 2: Poche Indigenous Health Leadership Program*** Chair: Professor Shawana Andrews – *Melbourne Poche Centre for Indigenous Health*	
10.20am	**Panel discussion** Fellows' Reflections	**Dan Carter** – *Monash Health* **Sharon Mongta** – *Royal Children's Hospital* **Steph Thow** – *Deakin University*
10.50am	**BREAK – Jarrah Catering**	

11.10am	***Session 3: Listening, Responding, Sustaining*** Chair: Bonnie Chew – *ALG Executive Member*	
11.15am	First Nations Staff Experiences of Cultural Safety at Austin Health	**Sam Fisher** **Mel Kotze** **Sarah Joyce** *Austin Health*
11.30am	Babaneek Booboop Program Yani - Our Yan Koondee Yirramboi (Babaneek Booboop Program Journey - Our Walk to Tomorrow)	**Alannah Ross** **Helen Crean** *Western Health* **Rylan Ross**
11.45am	Healthy Koori Kids: Integrating Health Care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children and Families with Experience of Out of Home Care	**Kathryn Sullivan** **Dr Davina Buntsma** *Monash Health*
12.00pm	***Session 4: Yarning Circle Reflection: What Do We Need Next?*** Chairs: Uncle Graham Atkinson, Tanya Druce	
	• What supports are missing? • What capacity building areas matter most? • What can MACH, Monash Partners, Western Alliance and partner organisations strengthen in future years?	
12.30pm	**Closing remarks**	**Uncle Graham Atkinson** **Tanya Druce**
12.40pm	**LUNCH & NETWORKING – Jarrah Catering**	
2.00pm	**End Day 2**	

With thanks to the generous support from the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre and the Indigenous Development Unit in the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences at the University of Melbourne.

Gabira by Anjee-Lee Bamblett

Gabira means wattle in Ngarigo and wattle is used for many uses including food and healing. The hands represent our sacred stories and the importance of passing on our knowledge to the next generation for our future generations to thrive. The blue lines represent the land and waterways our people care for and the pattern behind the hands represent the cultural knowledge. The circles represent communities across the state and the different cultural knowledges our mobs hold.

