



BREAKING BARRIERS, BUILDING INTEGRATION: REDEFINING AGEING IN A CONNECTED WORLD

16 – 18 September 2026 · Cairns, QLD

Wednesday 16 September 2026

11:00-17:00 Registration open

12:00-13:00 Arrival & light lunch

Session Chair: A / Professor Ajay Macharouthu

13:00-14:00 **Reimagining training in old age psychiatry: Looking back to feed forward**
Professor Andy Teodorczuk

14:00-15:00 **Delirium, encephalopathy, and catatonia: From theory to practice**
Associate Professor Mark Oldham

15:00-15:30 Afternoon tea

Session Chair: A / Professor Ajay Macharouthu

15:30-16:30 **Stuck in the middle with you**
Dr Angelo Diedricks & Helen Price

16:30-17:00 **SATPOA Update**
Associate Professor Gary Cheung

17:00-19:00 **Welcome reception & smoking ceremony**
Poolside Terrace



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Thursday 17 September 2026

07:45-17:00 **Registration open**
08:30-09:00 Conference opening & Welcome to Country
A/ Professor Ajay Macharouthu

Consumer story and experience
Deb Kachel

Session 1 Keynote presentation Session Chair: TBC

09:00 – 10:00 **TBC**
Scientia Professor Henry Brodaty

10:00 – 10:30 **Morning tea**

Session 2 Invited presentations Session Chair: Dr Angelo Diedricks

10:30 – 11:30 **Values in action: Old age psychiatrists in C-L psychiatry**
Associate Professor Mark Oldham

11:30 – 12:15 **HART to heart- Dementia and ageing in the Torres Strait**
Professor Eddy Strivens

12:15 – 13:15 **Lunch**

Session 3

Session 3a Free papers

Session chair: Dr Dan Lowden

13:15 – 13:35 **Differentiating behavioural variant frontotemporal dementia from psychiatric phenocopies: Results from a 4-year prospective diagnostic accuracy study**
Dr Joshua Flavell

13:35 – 13:55 **The usefulness of the CAIDE score in predicting dementia in Aotearoa New Zealand**
Dr Samuel McCabe

13:55 – 14:15 **Establishing a brain health clinic for adults with Down Syndrome: Experience and reflections**
Dr Jeremy Pan and Dr Melanie Johnston

14:15 – 14:35 **Who is 'family'? Documentation of support networks and substitute decision-makers in an older persons' mental health inpatient unit**
Dr Taylor Youngsmith

Session 3b Free papers

Session Chair: Dr Kristy Fragueiro Rebello

A systematic scoping review of the relationship between cognitive deficits and vulnerability to scams in older adults
Dr Loshana Jothieswaran

The real-world long and winding road to quality delirium care
Dr John Hopkins

Cognition and other determinants of wellbeing in old age: A 12-year longitudinal study
Dr Michael Connors

Integrating older adult mental health care: Relocation, reform and service transformation
Dr Claire Wise

14:35 – 14:55	Who said that? A pilot study comparing psychotherapeutic responses generated by artificial intelligence and a psychotherapy-trained psychiatrist Dr Stephanie McLennan	Neuropsychiatric symptoms in an Australian mild cognitive impairment cohort Dr Matthew Shrimpton
14:55 – 15:15	The role of ketamine and esketamine in the treatment of depression in older adults: A narrative review of efficacy, safety, and clinical implications Dr Faisal Al Daye	Implementation and early operational evaluation of an interdisciplinary neurodegenerative disease consultation service Dr Matthew Shrimpton
15:15 – 15:35	Q&A	Q&A
15:35 – 16:05	Afternoon tea	

Session 4: Closing keynote presentation Session chair: Dr Aathi Selvanayagam

16:05 – 17:10 **Focussing on the diagnosis of DLB, where we stand and where we are going to**
Professor John-Paul Taylor

17:10 – 17:35 **Members forum – Dr David Lie, Faculty Chair**

18:30– 21:30 Conference dinner, debate & dancing

Dinner Debate: “This house believes old age psychiatry is the natural home for managing dementia”

Join us for an unforgettable evening of lively debate, sharp wit, and clinical controversy at the RANZCP FPOA Annual Conference Dinner. In this tongue-in-cheek role reversal, an Old Age Psychiatrist will argue that dementia belongs firmly in the hands of the geriatrician, while a geriatrician takes the podium to champion it as the rightful domain of psychiatry of Old Age.

Expect robust arguments, good-natured rivalry, and thoughtful reflections on collaborative care in an area where disciplines intersect daily. Whether you come for the intellectual sparring or the dinner camaraderie, this promises to be a highlight of the conference—celebrating the art of respectful disagreement in the service of better patient care.

Chair: Professor Andy Teodorczuk

Speakers:

Professor Eddy Strivens – Consultant Geriatrician supported by a trainee

Dr David Lie – Old Age Psychiatrist supported by a trainee

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Friday 18 September 2026

08:00-16:30 **Registration open**

Session 5 Keynote presentation

Session Chair: Professor Andy Teodorczuk

08:30 – 09:30 **Management of DLB –covering current approaches and segueing into where we are with recent disease modifying trials**
Professor John-Paul Taylor

9:30 – 10:15 **Dementia- The last frontier for disease modifying therapies**
Dr Chrys Ranjeev Pulle

10:15 – 10:40 **Morning tea**

Session 6 Invited presentations

Session chair: Dr David Lie

10:40 – 11:05 **Cognitive stimulation therapy for dementia**
Associate Professor Gary Cheung

11:05 – 11:50 **New therapies in old age: What does Interventional psychiatry have to offer?**
Associate Professor Shanthi Sarmi

11:50 – 12:35 **Neuroimaging – What old age psychiatrists need to know**
Professor John O'Brien

12:35 – 13:15 **Lunch**

Session 7 Invited presentations

Session Chair: Dr Sid Makwana

13:15 – 14:00 **Integrating technology in older persons mental health: Hype, hope, and the near future**
Dr Dan Lowden

14:00 – 15:00 **Practical redesign options for violence in dementia and delirium - An infrastructure-enabled model of care for hospitals**
Associate Professor Elizabeth Whiting and Dr Fred Graham

15:00 – 15:20 **Afternoon tea**

Session 8 Keynote presentation

Session Chair: A / Professor Ajay Macharouthu

15:20 – 16:20 **State of the art in delirium care**
Associate Professor Mark Oldham

16:20 – 16:30 Closing remarks

Conference closing