

PATHS, ROADS AND PUZZLES

Finding new ways for child and adolescent psychiatry

9 – 11 September 2026 · Adelaide



Wednesday 9 September 2026 — Pre-conference workshop

Understanding the puzzle for young people involved with the courts — a road map for practitioners

07:30 – 11:10	Registration open
08:30 – 09:05	Offending in adolescence and mental illness Dr Kimberley Juers
09:05 – 09:40	Developmental considerations and offending in the Children's Court Dr Joey Le
09:40 – 10:15	Issues for young people with ASD and ID in the youth justice setting Dr Teresa Flower and Dr Adam Deacon
10:15 – 10:40	An introduction to problem behaviours 1 — sexual deviance A/Prof John Kasinathan
10:40 – 11:10	Morning tea
11:10 – 11:35	An introduction to problem behaviours 2 — radicalisation Dr Annie Parsons
11:35 – 12:10	A beginner's guide to Family Court for your patient and their families A/Prof Scott Harden
12:10 – 13:00	Panel discussion: Everything you wanted to know but were afraid to ask Presenters and Dr Yolisha Singh
13:00 – 13:30	Lunch

Wednesday 9 September 2026 — Conference

12:30 – 17:00	Conference registration open	
13:30 – 13:45	Conference open and welcome address	
13:45 – 14:45	The landscape of stress: Genes, environments, and emerging mental health pathways Professor Divya Mehta	
14:45 – 15:30	Forensic psychiatry Dr Marshall Watson	
15:30 – 16:00	Afternoon tea	
	Stream A: Eating disorders	Stream B: Health promotion
16:00 – 16:20	Finding a new way: Outcomes from an adolescent intensive eating disorder day hospital program Dr Urvashnee Singh	When worry about illness becomes illness: Understanding and treating illness anxiety disorder Dr Caitlin Starbuck
16:20 – 16:40	How much are we missing? Recognising eating pathology in young people in out-of-home care Dr Georgina Gorman	Sexual and reproductive health screening in an Australian child and youth mental health service: A cluster randomised controlled trial Ms Isabella Andersen
16:40 – 17:00	Co-occurring eating disorders and PTSD in young people: Examining impacts and functional links from clinicians' perspectives Dr Elena Swift	Reimagining health-promoting schools with adolescents: A qualitative study Dr Roshini Balasooriya Lekamge
17:30	Welcome reception	

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Thursday 10 September 2026

08:00 – 16:30	Registration open	
09:00 – 10:00	Keynote presentation Family law Judge	
10:00 – 11:00	Invited speaker presentation Commissioner Taimi Allan	
11:00 – 11:30	Morning tea	
	Stream A: ASD and neurodevelopmental	Stream B: Service delivery
11:30 – 11:50	Electroconvulsive therapy for catatonia-associated severe self-injurious behaviour in an adolescent with autism spectrum disorder Dr Mervyn Ian Peng Chow Sim	Addressing the tyranny of distance: headspace Telepsychiatry evaluation Dr Michael Batterham
11:50 – 12:10	Autistic burnout in children under 12 Dr Moumita Chowdhury	Therapeutic residential care for vulnerable children with complex trauma Dr Jennifer Hill
12:10 – 12:30	Beyond assessment: Building neurodevelopmental capacity through secondary consultation Dr Victor Senthinathan	The mobile adolescent psychiatry clinic Dr Peter McInnis
12:30 – 12:50	Neurodevelopmental psychotherapy Professor Kenneth Nunn	Re-imagining the puzzle Dr Lisa Newling
12:50 – 13:40	Lunch	
13:40 – 15:10	Symposium: Update on tics and OCD spectrum disorders Professor Valsamma Eapen, A/Prof Yulia Furlong, Professor Vlasios Brakoulis	
15:10 – 15:30	Afternoon tea	
	Stream A: Free papers	Stream B: Free papers
15:30 – 15:50	Recalibrating our favourite rulers: Evaluating modern management in a legacy system Dr Faith Ng	Did we find the “suicide gene”? No, but... Dr Sabrina Blum
15:50 – 16:10	Beyond the ACT: Cross-cultural differences in adolescent self-harm presentations to child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS) in Sri Lanka and Turkey Dr Prabha Vidyatilake	Acceptability of sexual health screening in a child and youth mental health service: Clinician perspectives Ms Shuohui Rao
16:10 – 16:30	ADHD and the microbiome–gut–brain–immune axis: Implications for child and adolescent psychiatry Dr Linda Thomas	
19:30 – 22:30	Conference dinner	

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Friday 11 September 2026

08:00 – 17:00	Registration open	
09:00 – 10:00	The provision of psychiatric services to children and young people — how are human rights relevant? Professor John Tobin	
10:00 – 11:00	Professor Bridianne O'Dea	
11:00 – 11:30	Morning tea	
11:30 – 13:00	Symposium: CAMHS rapid response teams: Paths to effective care A/Prof Michael Bowden, A/Prof Rajeev Jairam, Professor Valsamma Eapen, A/Prof John Kasinathan	
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch	
	Stream A: Early years	Stream B: Forensic and ADHD
14:00 – 14:20	The STARS for Kids – toddler program: A qualitative exploration of perceived effectiveness, acceptability and feasibility Dr Ria Mittal	Beyond “victim vs offender”: Trauma-focused care for the “in-between” group Dr Deva Priya Appan
14:20 – 14:40	Exploring parental social risk factors for mental health problems in four-year-old children Dr Christa Lam-Cassettari	Increasing presentations with aggression and violence in children under 12 in the post-COVID era Dr Moumita Chowdhury
14:40 – 15:00	A learning system in its early years: Designing a digital dashboard for community child wellbeing service Dr Ben Hoadley	Predictors and patterns of treatment disengagement in children with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder Dr Prabha Vidyatilake
15:00 – 15:20	STARS for Kids program: Experiences of multicultural parents navigating health care for their children with neurodevelopmental conditions Dr Cameron Donnet	AI-powered prediction of treatment dropout in paediatric ADHD Mrs Nishadi De Zoysa
15:20 – 15:45	Afternoon tea	
15:45 – 16:45	Trainee Awards Ceremony and Julian Katz Oration	
16:45 – 17:00	Conference close	