

Faculty of Forensic Psychiatry 2025 Conference Program

Wednesday 13 August

08:00 – 8:45	Registration
08:45 - 09:00	Welcome to country and opening address
09:00 – 10:00	Keynote presenter Justice Michael Croucher (Supreme Court of Victoria)
10:00 – 10:30	Morning tea
10:30 – 11:15	Invited presenter Ali Besiroglu (director, Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service)
11:15 – 11:45	How can we stop allowing patients with serious mental illnesses to harm or kill others Dr Prashant Pandurangi, A/Prof Andrew Carroll and A/Prof Rajan Darjee
11:45 – 12:15	Specialised enhancement teams: A novel service model bridging forensic and general psychiatry Glenn Batterley and Dr Katie Mckibbin
12:15 - 13:15	Lunch
13:15 – 14:45	Civil litigation masterclass <i>Practical insights on avoiding litigation and coronial trouble, with case studies, plaintiff perspectives, and tips for giving evidence as an expert witness.</i> Megan Fitzgerald (barrister, Victorian Bar) and Emily Hart (principal, Arnold Thomas & Becker)
14:45 – 15:15	Afternoon tea
15:15 – 17:00	Child murder by parents: motives, mental health prevention, and law Prof Susan Hatters Friedman
17:00 – 19:00	Welcome reception

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Thursday 14 August

08:15 – 8:45	Registration	
8:45 - 9:45	You Have All The Resources You Need—Working In The Civil Forensic Arena Dr Sandra Hacker AO (Vic)	
9:45– 10:30	Invited presenter Dr Angelo Virgona (RANZCP president-elect)	
10:30 – 11:00	Morning tea	
11:00 – 11:45	Invited presenter – Victoria’s carceral system: lived experience Abe Stephanson (Vic)	
11:45 – 12:30	CFMHS treatment and rehabilitation clinic Dr Kerri Eagle	
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch	
	Abstract stream A	Abstract stream B
13:30 – 14:00	Prevalence of mental illness and substance use disorder in a Northern Territory prison population Dr Sarah Dorrington and Dr Winifred Knight	Fighting for their lives: Impact of psychiatric evidence in capital cases of drug trafficking (Singapore) Dr Rajesh Jacob, Dr Jaydip Sarkar and Johannes Hadi
14:00 – 14:30	Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and the offender Dr Peter Heffernan	Fighting for their lives: Impact of psychiatric evidence in capital cases of drug trafficking (Singapore) Dr Rajesh Jacob, Dr Jaydip Sarkar and Johannes Hadi
14:30 – 15:00	The TRAP-18 formulation of the Christchurch mosque attacker Dr Yvette Kelly, Prof Susan Hatters-Friedman and Dr Justin Barry Walsh	Fighting for their lives: Impact of psychiatric evidence in capital cases of drug trafficking (Singapore) Dr Rajesh Jacob, Dr Jaydip Sarkar and Johannes Hadi
15:00 – 15:30	Afternoon tea	
15:30 – 16:00	Breaking news or broken views? Psychiatry in the media spotlight Dr Natalie Puchalski	
16:00 - 17:00	Invited presenters – Suppression orders James Anderson (barrister, Victorian Bar) and Felix Ralph (partner, Marshall Jovanovska Ralph)	
19:00 – 23:00	Conference dinner	

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Friday 15 August

08:30 – 09:00	Registration	
	Abstract stream C	Abstract stream D
09:00 – 09:30	Providing mental health care to youth in corrections/training facilities - a review of South Australia A/Prof Melanie Turner	How does a psychiatrist assess fitness for work Dr Alan Jager
09:30 – 10:00	Comparing service evaluation outcomes between Aotearoa and Australian secure youth forensic inpatient mental health services Dr Tom Judd, A/Prof John Kasinathan and Dr Enys Delmage	Psychiatric impairment guides in Australia - A critical review Dr Michael Epstein
10:00 – 10:30	Radicalisation in adolescents: mental health considerations for violent extremism A/Prof John Kasinathan and Dr Anne Parsons	Wellness, Lies and Belle Gibson A/Prof Robert Kaplan
10:30 – 11:00	Morning tea	
	Abstract stream E	Abstract stream F
11:00 – 11:30	Bridging Borders: Collaborative advances in Forensic Psychiatry between Australia and India Dr Vinesh Gupta and Prof B.M. Suresh	Pink-collar crime: More than just a pretty face Prof Susan Hatters Friedman
11:30 – 12:00	Bernard Spilsbury: The Perils of Forensic Hubris A/Prof Robert Kaplan	Utility of the dynamic appraisal of situational aggression in an adult inpatient non-forensic psychiatric setting Dr Zi Ying Cui
12:00 – 12:30	Medlicott award winner Exploring care of persons with dementia and significant violence risk in Victoria: A Delphi Study Dr Zoe Cousins, Dr Thomas Rego and Dr Sam Pang	BULLYING-A new paradigm of psychiatric injury Anderson, Dr Peter Anderson
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch	
13:30 – 14:15	Invited presenter Dr Karen Williams (NSW)	
14:15 – 15:00	Invited presenter – Communicating credibility: psychiatric assessment in civil litigation Dr Doron Samuelli (NSW)	
15:00 – 15:30	Afternoon tea	
15:30 – 16:30	“You can’t ask that! – Forensic psychiatry edition” Victorian Forensic Faculty Committee	
16:30 – 17:00	Closing remarks and announcing the 2026 Conference	

Faculty of Forensic Psychiatry 2025 Post-Conference Workshops

Saturday 16 August

08:00 – 09:00	Registration		
08:15 – 10:30	Report writing – a workshop for trainees Dr Calum Smith, Prof Andy Carroll, A/Prof Andrew Ellis, Dr Kerri Eagle, Dr Sarah Dorrington and Tim Marsh	09:00 – 10:30	Civil psychiatry assessment Dr Michael Epstein, Dr Nathan Serry, A/Prof Saji Damodaran and Dr Nigel Strauss
10:30 - 11:00	Morning tea		
11:00 – 13:00	Report writing – a workshop for trainees Dr Calum Smith, Prof Andy Carroll, A/Prof Andrew Ellis, Dr Kerri Eagle, Dr Sarah Dorrington and Tim Marsh	11:00 – 12:30	Civil psychiatry assessment Dr Michael Epstein, Dr Nathan Serry, A/Prof Saji Damodaran and Dr Nigel Strauss
13:00 – 13:30	Lunch	12:30 – 13:30	