

How high can psychiatry fly? Learnings from the myth of Icarus

Image: Bruegel, Pieter (attributed to). Landscape with the Fall of Icarus. c. 1560, Royal Museums of Fine Arts of Belgium, Brussels

Conference Program

Friday 25 September – The Stables

1800–1900 Welcome reception

Saturday 26 September – Collins Room

0830–0845 Welcome to Country

0845–0900 *Conference Opening Address:* Professor David Castle

Flying high with neurostimulation

0900–0940 *Keynote: Update on TMS and other developments in neurostimulation:* Professor Colleen Loo

0940–1010 *DBS for OCD and beyond:* Professor Dennis Velakoulis

1010–1030 Q&A

1030–1100 Morning Tea

The lowest low: suicide and suicide prevention

1100–1130 *Where we've come from, where we're headed, strategies and plans:* Professor Dinesh Arya

1130–1150 *Removing access to suicidal means, including heights:* Dr Adriana Nevarez-Flores

1150–1210 *Lived experience perspective:* Laura Grattidge

1210–1230 Q&A

1230–1330 Lunch

Building robust models of care: high rise or low rise?

1330–1400 *Child and youth:* Professor Brett McDermott

1400–1430 *The landscape and challenges in old age psychiatry:* Dr Matthew Fasnacht and Dr Jeremy Smith

1430–1500 Q&A

1500–1530 Afternoon Tea

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Saturday 26 September – Collins Room

How high is too high?

1530–1545	<i>Psychedelics as psychiatric therapies: high hopes?</i> Professor David Castle
1545–1615	<i>Does cannabis have a therapeutic role for mental illnesses?</i> Dr Christine Hallinan
1615–1645	<i>Ketamine in the treatment of depression:</i> Professor Colleen Loo
1645–1700	Q&A
1700–1705	Day one closing remarks

Official Conference Dinner

Astor Grill, 157 Macquarie Street, Hobart

1830–2200	Presentation of the 2026 Tasmania Branch Meritorious Service Award Dinner talk: <i>John Mack, the psychiatrist who flew into space and never came back:</i> Associate Professor Rob Kaplan
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Sunday 27 September – Collins Room

Stimulating stuff

0900–0930	<i>Safe and effective use of stimulants for ADHD:</i> Professor Dave Coghill
0930–1000	<i>MDMA for PTSD:</i> Associate Professor Jon Lane
1000–1030	<i>Meeting them where they are: Practical harm reduction for ICE:</i> Dr Nicolle Ait Khelifa
1030–1100	Q&A
1100–1130	Morning Tea
1130–1230	Keynote: Professor Kathryn Abel (Manchester, UK)

How high or low can technology take us?

1230–1330	<i>Artificial Intelligence use should be banned in psychiatric practice</i> Panel: Dr Anisha Grover, Ahpra representative & Melanie Robson
1330	Conference close