



Working together every step of the way

National Centre of Excellence in
Intellectual Disability Health

Conference 2025

Conference Plan Easy to Read

3 - 4 July 2025

Sydney Masonic Centre
and Online



National Centre
of Excellence in
**Intellectual
Disability Health**

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About the conference



The National Centre of Excellence in Intellectual Disability Health is having a conference.

We say **the Centre** for short.

The conference is about the health of people with intellectual disability.



The conference will be

- in person and
- online.

We will take photos and video at the conference.

We may use the photos and videos

- on our website
- in our newsletter
- or on our social media.



Speak to staff at the registration desk if you do **not** want your photo taken.

Conference dates and times



The conference is on 2 days.

The days are

- Thursday 3 July and



- Friday 4 July.



The conference is the same time both days.

It starts at **9am** Sydney time.



The conference ends at **5pm** Sydney time.

Your local time may be different.

About the talks



The conference will have lots of talks.

For each talk this plan will tell you

- time for the talk
- room the talk is in
- what it is about
- who will talk



You can choose what talks you go to.



Some of the talks are breakout talks.

Breakout talks all happen at the same time.

You choose one breakout talk at a time to go to.



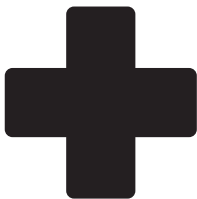
To help you choose each talk is marked with a shape.

The shape tells you who the talk is best for.

But you can choose to go to any talk.



Talks with a star are best for people with intellectual disability.



Talks with a cross are best for health professionals.



Talks with a triangle are best for academics and researchers



Talks with a square are best for disability professionals and supporters.

Rooms at the conference



There are 4 rooms at the conference.

The rooms are

- blue room
- green room
- orange room
- purple room

They will have different talks.



Talks in the blue room and green room will be livestreamed.

Livestream means you can watch the talk online.



The blue room and green room will have

- Captioning
- Auslan interpretation

The yellow room is the quiet room.



You can go to the quiet room anytime.

The room will have activities to do.













On the next pages is a table of all the talks at the conference.








We call it a **snapshot**.

There is more information about the talks after the snapshot.







Day 1 Thursday 3 July






















8.00am	Registration Open
9.00am Blue Room	Welcome to Country
9.10am Blue Room	MC Welcome
9.15am Blue Room	National Centre of Excellence Overview Panel
9.45am Blue Room	Opening Address Professor Alastair McEwin AM
10.30am	Morning Tea 
11.00am Breakout Rooms	Blue Room
	Driving Change: Advocacy on health for people with intellectual disability Panel 
	Green Room
	Social, Sexual and Women's Health Panel 
	Orange Room
	Research Co-Design in Intellectual Disability Health Panel 
	Purple Room
	Let's Get Loud! Learn and Lead Group 



12.30pm	Lunch and Entertainment 
1.30pm Breakout Rooms	Blue Room
	Health Planning and Peer Facilitation for People with Complex Needs Microboards Australia 
	Green Room
	Intellectual Disability and Health: Gaps and Improvements SACID 
	Orange Room
	How to Design Workshops That Include Everyone Swinburne University 
	Purple Room
	Using Your Smartphone to Make Video Messages and Content Workshop by SF3 Film Festival 
2.10pm Breakout Rooms	Blue Room
	Co-Designing Online Spaces Monash Health and the National Centre of Excellence in Intellectual Disability Health 

	Green Room
	Intellectual Disability and Mental Health: From Awareness to Action Panel <div>    </div>
	Orange Room
	My Relationships Matter Council for Intellectual Disability NSW <div>   </div>
	Purple Room Using Your Smartphone to Make Video Messages and Content Workshop by SF3 Film Festival <div>  </div>
3.10pm	Afternoon Tea <div>  </div>
3.30pm Blue Room	Chief Medical Officer Address Professor Michael Kidd AO
3.50pm Blue Room	Culturally Safe and Inclusive Approaches to Intellectual Disability Health Panel
4.50pm	Day 1 Close
Optional Event	
5.00pm Marble Foyer	Networking Event Tickets sold separately

Day 2 Friday 4 July

8.30am	Registration Open
9.00am Blue Room	Welcome Day 2
9.20am Blue Room	Keynote Address Dr Gloria Krahn, PhD, MPH
10.30am	Morning Tea 
11.00am Breakout Rooms	Blue Room
	Models of Care in Intellectual Disability Health Panel 
	Green Room
	Short Talks 
	Orange Room
	Palliative Care and Aging Panel 
	Purple Room
	Staying Safe Online Down Syndrome Australia Digital Champions
	It's Doctor Time Inclusion Australia 
12.30pm	Lunch and Entertainment 

1.30pm Breakout Rooms	Blue Room
	Film Screenings and Panel Discussion Bus Stop Films    
	Green Room
	Short Talks   
	Orange Room
	Dr Gloria Krahn Fireside Chat  
	Purple Room Amplifying Inclusion Through Art Workshop    
2.35pm Breakout Rooms	Blue Room
	What Can We Learn From the Down Syndrome Australia (DSA) Health Ambassadors? DSA Health Ambassadors   
	Green Room
	Short Talks   
	Orange Room
	Outcomes of a Hospital-Based Anaesthesia Service for People with Intellectual Disability SAIDHS  

	Purple Room	
	Meet Up	
3.05pm	Afternoon Tea	
3.30pm Blue Room	Wrap Up Day 2 Panel	
4.30pm Blue Room	Closing	

Day 1 plan



8am to 9am

Registration

Get your name tag.

Find a seat for the first talk.

9am to 9.10am

Blue room



Welcome to Country

Welcome to Country is when a First Nations person welcomes everyone to their land.

Speaker is Uncle Chicka Madden from the Metropolitan Aboriginal Land Council.

9.10am to 9.15am

Blue room



Welcome

Judy and Julian will welcome guests to the Conference.

Speakers are



- Judy Huett from the Centre



- Julian Trollor from the Centre.

9.15 am to 9.45am

Blue room



National Centre of Excellence Overview

Judy and Julian will do a short talk about the Centre.

Staff from the Centre will talk about their work.

Speakers are



- Raylene Griffiths from Council for Intellectual Disability and the Centre



- Rory Keyes from the Centre



- Laura Naing from Council for Intellectual Disability and the Centre



- Ana Nguyen from the Centre



- Lucy Reynhout from the Centre.

A **facilitator** is a person who keeps the talk going.

Facilitators are



- Patsie Frawley from the Centre



- Ricky Kremer from the Centre.

9.15 am to 9.45am

Blue room



Opening Talk

Questions and answers

Alastair will open the conference.
He will answer questions from the audience

The speaker is



- Professor Alastair McEwin AM.
He was the Commissioner at the Disability Royal Commission



10.30am to 11am

Morning tea



11am to 12.30pm

Breakout talks

Choose 1 of 4 talks to go to.

11am to 12.30pm

Option 1 Blue room



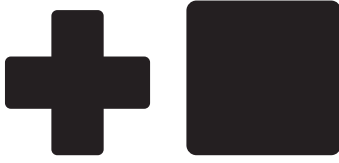
Driving Change

Advocacy on health for people with intellectual disability

This talk is about systemic advocacy in intellectual disability health.

Systemic advocacy means speaking up to change

- laws
- policies
- ways of working.



This talk is best for

- health professionals
- disability professionals and supporters.

Speakers are



- Eileen Baldry from the Centre



- Simon Cotterell from Council for Intellectual Disability and the Centre



- Kirsten Deane from Melbourne Disability Institute and the Centre



- Laura Naing from Council for Intellectual Disability and the Centre



- Darryl Steff from Down Syndrome Australia.

The facilitator is



- Sophie Howlett from Council for Intellectual Disability and the Centre.

11am to 12.30pm

Option 2 Green room



Social, sexual and women's health

This talk is work and resources that have been **codeveloped** about health.

Codevelop means something is made by professionals and people with intellectual disability working together.

There will be time for questions and chat.



This talk is best for

- health professionals
- academics and researchers
- disability professionals and supporters.

Speakers are



- Claire Bertholli from Women with Disabilities Australia



- Mel Harrison from Sexual Health and Family Planning ACT



- Sheridan Kerr from Sexual Health and Family Planning ACT



- Caroline Livanos from Jean Hailes for Women's Health



- Lauren Winkler from University of Sydney.

Facilitators are



- Patsie Frawley from the Centre



- Lucy Reynhout from the Centre.

11am to 12.30pm

Option 3 Orange Room



Research codesign in intellectual disability health

This talk is about codesign in research. It will talk about why codesign is important and how to do it well.

There will be an activity at the end.



This talk is best for

- people with intellectual disability
- academics and researchers.

Speakers are



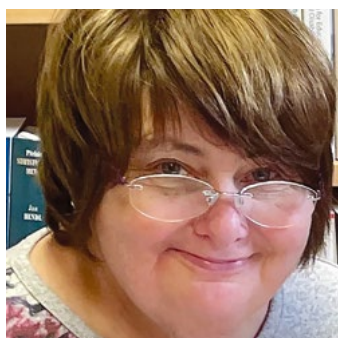
- Bruce O'Brien from Centre for Disability Studies



- Caroline Hart from Scope



- Morag Kelly from Centre for Disability Studies



- Julie Loblinzk Refalo from GeneEQUAL



- Annie Loughens from Scope



- Iva Strnadova from GeneEQUAL



- Ellie Taylor from Centre for Disability Studies

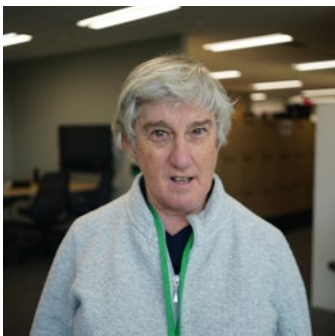


- Erin Whittle from Centre for Disability Studies



- Wayne Wright from Centre for Disability Studies.

Facilitators are



- Suzie Jessep from Centre for Disability Studies



- Josephine Wyborn from Centre for Disability Studies.

11am to 12.30pm

Option 4 Purple room



Let's get loud!

A workshop about having your say

Got something to say about healthcare?

Learn how to create your key message in this fun and interactive workshop.



This talk is for best for people with intellectual disability.



The talk is by the Learn and Lead Group.

The Learn and Lead Group are people with intellectual disability.

They give advice to the Centre. They are learning advocacy and leadership skills.



12.30pm to 1.30pm

Lunch and entertainment

Anthony “The Piano Man” Minnicino



1.30pm to 2pm

Breakout talks

Choose 1 of 4 talks to go to.

1.30pm to 2pm

Option 1 Blue room



Health planning and peer facilitation for people with complex needs

This talk is about health planning for people with complex needs.

This talk is by Microboards Australia.

A **microboard** is a group of people who support a person with disability.



This talk is best for

- health professionals
- disability professionals and supporters.

The speaker is



- Rachel Skoss from Microboards Australia.

1.30pm to 2pm

Option 2 Green room



Intellectual disability and health

Gaps and improvements

This talk is about health services for people with intellectual disability.

The talk will focus on gaps in services and how we can fix them.

This talk is by South Australian Council on Intellectual Disability. We say **SACID** for short.



This talk is best for

- people with intellectual disability
- disability professionals and supporters.

Speakers are



- Melinda Brown from SACID



- Aaron Byrne from SACID.

1.30pm to 2pm

Option 3 Orange Room



How to design workshops that include everyone

Speakers will share what they have learned about codesign.

They will ask the audience for ideas to make it better.

This talk is by Swinburne University.



This talk is best for

- health professionals
- disability professionals and supporters.

Speakers are



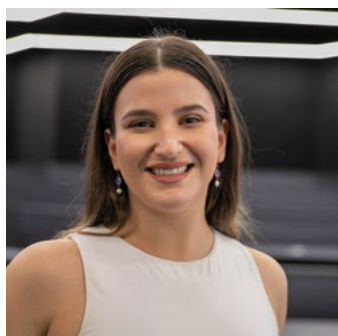
- Claudia Bridge from Swinburne University



- Angus King who is an actor



- Rachael McDonald from Swinburne University



- Paris Triantis from Swinburne University

1.30pm to 2pm

Option 4 Purple Room



Using your smartphone to make video messages and content

Sharing your message by film can be a powerful advocacy tool. All you need is a smartphone.

You will learn how to use a smartphone or tablet to make a professional video or film.



This talk is best for people with intellectual disability.

Speakers are



- Angela Blake from SmartFone Flick Fest



- Bevan Garozzo who is a filmmaker.



2.05pm to 3.10pm

Breakout talks

Choose 1 of 4 talks to go to.

2.05pm to 3.10pm

Option 1 Blue room



Codesigning online spaces

Monash Health has codesigned an online information hub. It has won awards.

It is called MyLivediD.

The Centre is codesigning an information hub. It is called Knowledge Exchange Hub. This talk is about codesign. It is about the

- processes
- challenges and
- lessons.



This talk is best for

- health professionals
- academics and researchers
- disability professionals and supporters.

Speakers are



- Zoe Broadway from VALID



- Kellie Hammerstein from Monash Health



- Mark Schiffer from Blick Creative



- Grace Sharkey from the Centre



- Michelle Templeton from Monash Health

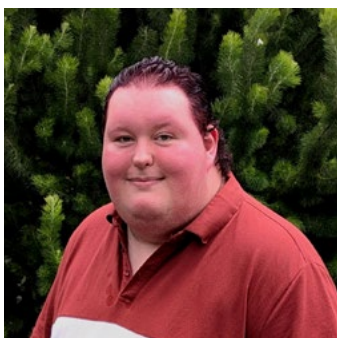


- Jen Xiang from the Centre.

Facilitators are



- Patsie Frawley from the Centre



- Rory Keyes from the Centre.

2.05pm to 3.10pm

Option 2 Green Room



Intellectual disability and mental health

From awareness to action

This talk is about mental health for people with intellectual disability.

It will talk about gaps and ways to fix them.



This talk is best for

- health professionals
- academics and researchers
- disability professionals and supporters.

Speakers are



- Aimee Blackam from NSW Ministry of Health



- Melanie Johnston from Queensland Centre of Excellence in Intellectual Disability and Autism Health



- Julian Trollor from the Centre.

The facilitator is



- Rebecca Koncz from the Centre.

2.05pm to 3.10pm

Option 3 Orange Room



My Relationships Matter

3 women with intellectual disability share their stories.

They want to help others feel confident talking about their sexual and reproductive health.

They will share how important it is to work with people you trust.

This talk is by Council for Intellectual Disability.

We say **CID** for short.



This talk is best for people with intellectual disability.

Speakers are



- Manon Bilawczuk from CID



- Pamela Darling from CID



- Amanda Duell-Ferguson from CID



- Leonie McLean from CID.

2.05pm to 3.10pm

Option 4 Purple room



Using your smartphone to make video messages and content

This talk continues from earlier.



3.10 to 3.30pm

Afternoon tea

3.10 to 3.30pm

Option 1 Blue room



Chief Medical Officer address

Professor Michael Kidd AO

3.50pm to 4.50pm

Blue room



Culturally safe and inclusive approaches to intellectual disability health

This talk is about cultural safety.

Cultural safety makes healthcare better for First Nations people with intellectual disability.

It is about First Nations peoples

- thoughts on ability
- barriers to healthcare
- need for cultural safety in services and practice.

Speakers are



- Scott Avery from University of Technology Sydney



- Samantha Cooms from University of Queensland



- John Gilroy from University of Sydney



- Uncle Willie Prince who is an advocate.

4.50pm to 5pm

Blue room



Wrap up day 1

Speakers are



- Judy from the Centre



- Julian from the Centre.



5pm to 7pm

Networking event

This is an optional event.

You need to buy a ticket to attend.

Chat with people from the conference.

Snacks and drinks are included in the ticket.

Day 2 plan



8.30am to 9am

Registration

Get your name tag.

Find a seat for the first talk.

9am to 9.20am

Blue room



Welcome day 2

Judy and Julian will welcome guests to day 2.

Speakers are



- Judy from the Centre



- Julian from the Centre.

9.20am to 10.30am

Blue room



Keynote

Keynote is the main talk of the conference.

It is meant for everyone.

This talk is about health care for people with intellectual disability.

It is about changes over 20 years and what still needs to change.

Speaker is



- Dr Gloria Krahn from Oregon State University.

Facilitators are



- Judy from the Centre



- Julian from the Centre.



10.30am to 11am

Morning tea



11am to 12.30pm

Breakout talks

Choose 1 of 4 talks to go to.

11am to 12.30pm

Option 1 Blue room



Models of care in intellectual disability health

This will be a panel talk.



This talk is best for

- health professionals
- academics and researchers
- disability professionals and supporters.

Speakers are



- Melanie Johnston from Queensland Centre of Excellence in Autism and Intellectual Disability Health



- Elizabeth O'Shannessy from Alfred Health



- Dr Jessica Smith from Adelaide Disability Medical Services.

Facilitators are



- Jenny Downs from the Kids Research Institute Australia and the Centre



- Kitty-Rose Foley from Queensland Centre of Excellence in Intellectual Disability and Autism Health and the Centre.

11am to 12.30pm

Option 2 Green room



Short talks

10 minute talks about different ideas.

Speakers will take questions from people online at the end.



This talk is best for

- health professionals
- academics and researchers
- disability professionals and supporters.



**Partners in care - service experiences of carers
of people with intellectual disability**

This talk is by Lukas Hofstätter from Carers NSW.

He will talk about experiences of carers of people
with intellectual disability.



A Life of Ups and Downs: The Struggle Against Diagnostic Overshadowing of Rare Medical Conditions when you have Down Syndrome

This talk is by Antonia Scott and Victoria Scott.



They will talk about Victoria's story. They will talk about **diagnostic overshadowing** for a person with down syndrome.

Diagnostic overshadowing is when doctors think all symptoms are part of a person's disability. This can mean a person does not get the care they need.



Hiding in plain sight: Using population research to better target policies to improve antenatal outcomes for mothers with intellectual disability and their children

This talk is by Susan Collings from Western Sydney University.

She will talk about research to improve outcomes for mothers with intellectual disability and their children.



Cancer survivorship for people with intellectual disability

This talk is by

- Jennifer Baldock from Cancer Council SA
- Michelle Bellon from Flinders University and SAIDHS
- Timothy Cahalan from Flinders University.



They will talk about surviving cancer for people with intellectual disability.





Don't just tell me - show me: MyComms and the future of visual communication

This talk is by Jess Shahbazi and Jennifer Winstone
from MyComms.



They will talk about an app that uses visual
supports.

The facilitator is



- Ellen Skladzien from the Centre.

11am to 12.30pm

Option 3 Orange room



Palliative care and aging

Speakers share their work and lived experience of

- age related illness
- end of life
- palliative care.

Palliative care is special support for someone who is dying.

There will be a panel talk and time for questions.



This talk is best for

- health professionals
- academics and researchers
- disability professionals and supporters.

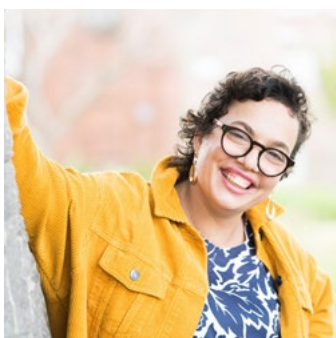
Speakers are



- Wendy Bruce from Fragile X Association of Australia



- Rachael Cvejic from the Centre



- Pamela Darling from Council for Intellectual Disability



- David Pech from Council for Intellectual Disability.

The facilitator is



- Rebecca Koncz from the Centre.

11am to 12.30pm

Option 4 Purple room



There will be 2 talks in this room.



These talks are best for

- people with intellectual disability
- disability professionals and supporters.

Talk 1

Staying safe online



How to spot a scam and stay safe using apps and online platforms

Learn how to stay safe while using health apps. A health app can be an app like MyGov.

Learn how to spot scam emails.

This talk is by

Down Syndrome Australia Digital Champions.

Speakers are



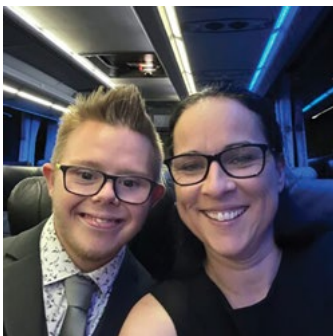
- Chris Bunton from Down Syndrome Australia



- Sarah Clarke from Down Syndrome Australia



- Lachlan Gapes from Down Syndrome Australia



- Elizabeth Willis from Down Syndrome Australia.

Talk 2

It's Doctor Time



Inclusion Australia wants to help more people with intellectual disability have their yearly health check.

They have made information and resources for

- people with intellectual disability
- families
- GPs and clinic staff
- service providers
- and others.

Speakers are



- Catherine McAlpine from Inclusion Australia



- Luke Nelson from Inclusion Australia.



12.30pm to 1.30pm

Lunch and entertainment

Caoimhe McCooey and Gene



1.30pm to 2.30pm

Breakout talks

Choose 1 of 4 talks to go to.

1.30pm to 2.30pm

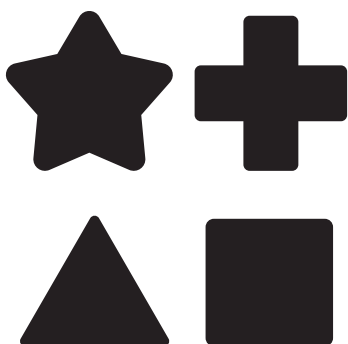
Option 1 Blue room



Film screening and talk

You will see 4 films made by Bus Stop Films.

A panel will talk about the films.



This talk is for everyone.

Speakers are



- Jennifer Brennen from Centre for Disability Studies



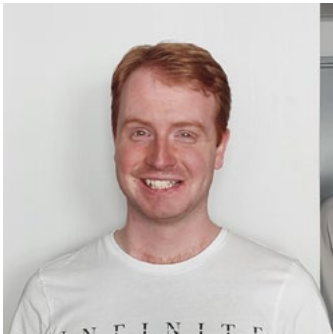
- Julian Neuhaus from Bus Stop Films



- Estelle Kremer who is a documentary participant



- Ricky Kremer from the Centre and documentary participant



- Ronan Soussa who is a Bus Stop Films' Program Ambassador.

The facilitator is



- Kirsten Deane from University of Melbourne and the Centre.

1.30pm to 2.30pm

Option 2 Green room



Short talks

10 minute talks about different ideas.

Speakers will take questions from people online at the end.



This talk is best for

- health professionals
- academics and researchers
- disability professionals and supporters.



VR in health care settings

This talk is by Stefan Michalski from the Centre.

He will talk about virtual reality in health care.



Heart health for people with disability

This talk is by Rory Keyes and Emma Suzuki from the Centre.

They will talk about heart health for people with intellectual disability.



Outreach dental placement for people with disability

This talk is by Archana Pradhan and Antonia Scott from University of Sydney.



They will talk about outreach dental placement for people with disability.

The facilitator is



- Grace Sharkey from the Centre.

1.30pm to 2.30pm

Option 3 Orange Room



Chat with Dr Gloria Krahn

Join keynote speaker Dr Gloria Krahn for a chat.



This talk is best for:

- health professionals
- academics and researchers.

The facilitator is



- Mary-Ann O'Donovan from Centre for Disability Studies and the Centre.

1.30 to 2.30pm

Option 4 Purple room



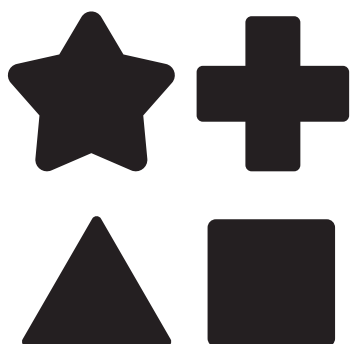
Amplifying inclusion through art

Learn about inclusion from experts from the Centre.

You can learn new skills like

- pom-pom making
- origami.

This talk is run with Equality Group.



This talk is for everyone.

Speakers are



- Laura Naing from the Centre and CID



- Raylene Griffiths from the Centre and CID.



2.35pm to 3.05pm

Breakout talks

Choose 1 of 4 talks to go to.

2.35pm to 3.05pm

Option 1 Blue room



What can we learn from the Down Syndrome Australia Health Ambassadors?

The Health Ambassadors will talk about their work.

They will share tips on how people with intellectual disability can play a key role training a health worker.



This talk is best for

- people with intellectual disability
- health professionals
- academics and researchers.

Speakers are



- Liz Evans from Down Syndrome Australia



- Rohan Fullwood from Down Syndrome Australia



- Naomi Lake from Down Syndrome Australia



- Olivia Sidhu from Down Syndrome Australia.

2.35pm to 3.05pm

Option 2 Green room



Short talks

10 minute talks about different ideas.

Speakers will take questions from people online at the end.



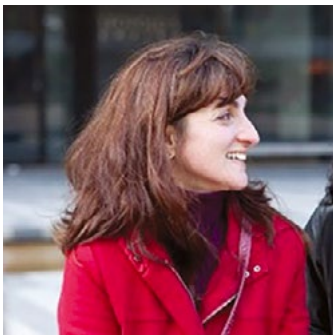
This talk is best for

- health professionals
- academics and researchers
- disability professionals and supporters.



Healthy Discussions

This talk is by Tarli Sali and Lisa Brumtis from Office of the Public Advocate.



Listening to people with intellectual disability to make genetic health care more inclusive, person-centred and respectful

This talk is by

- Julie Loblinzk Refalo from GeneEQUAL
- Iva Strnadova from GeneEQUAL
- Elizabeth Palmer from GeneEQUAL.

2.35pm to 3.05pm

Option 3 Orange room



Outcomes of a hospital-based anaesthesia service for people with intellectual disability

This talk is about a new Health Care Access Service.

The service provides pre-procedure sedation and anaesthesia for adults with intellectual disability.

Sedation or **anaesthesia** means when you are given medicine. The medicine can help you not feel pain and can put you to sleep.

This talk is by South Australian Intellectual Disability Health Service.

We say **SAIDHS** for short.



This talk is best for

- health professionals
- academics and researchers
- disability professionals and supporters.

Speakers are



- Michelle Bellon from SAIDHS



- Farima Forooziya from SAIDHS



- Stephanie Searle from SAIDHS.

2.35pm to 3.05pm

Option 4 Purple room



Meet Up

Meet up with friends you have made at the conference.

You can have a coffee and talk about ways to keep in touch.



This talk is best for people with intellectual disability.



3.05pm to 3.30pm

Afternoon tea

3.30pm to 4.30pm

Blue room



Wrap up day 2

A panel of conference guests will talk about the last two days.

An artist will draw the information from the talk.

Speakers will be decided on the day.

4.30pm to 5pm

Blue room



Closing

Judy and Julian will close the conference.

Speakers are



- Judy from the Centre



- Julian from the Centre.

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