



16-18 SEPTEMBER 2026  
PAN PACIFIC PERTH

# AIMS

## NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

**FRONTIER PATHOLOGY**  
INNOVATION | COMMUNITY | COLLABORATION

### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

*\* Please note this is a draft program outline and is subject to change at the discretion of the organising committee\**

#### WEDNESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2026

TIME	SESSION			
8.00am – 9.00am	<b>Registration</b>			
9.00am – 9.30am	Opening Ceremony			
9.30am – 10.30am	Noninvasive prenatal testing: how it is developed and evolved <b>Professor Allen Chan, The Chinese University of Hong Kong</b>			
10.30am – 11.00am	<b>Morning Tea</b>			
THEME	Genomic Advancements in Pathology	Transplantation Case Study (15mins each)	Microbiology	Haematology
11.00am – 11.30am	Statewide Comprehensive Genomic Profiling to Expedite Excellence in Treatment of WA Cancer Patients <b>Cleo Robinson</b>	Understanding the Starting Point: Diagnostic Story of an HCT Candidate <b>Dr Safia Belbachir</b>	SPOTFIRE Respiratory Panel Evaluation: At the Point-of-Care and Near the Point-of-Care <b>Todd Pryce</b>	Implementation of CellaVision digital morphology in PathWest regional laboratories <b>Brad Conway</b>

		HLA typing and Unrelated Donor section <b>Dr Dianne De Santis</b>		
11.30am – 12.00pm		The role of the transplant laboratory in a transplant patient's journey <b>Dr Coral-Ann Almeida</b>  When a patient needs transfusion support <b>Hayley Brown</b>	Utility of Xpert for Neisseria gonorrhoeae confirmatory testing <b>Olivia Foti</b>	FSH and PCH on Ph-like B-ALL <b>Rebecca De Kraa</b>
12.00pm – 12.30pm	WA Centre of Excellence for Neurogenetics <b>Mark Davis</b>	FSH – Post transplant care/complications <b>Diane Sutherland</b>	Rapid detection and characterisation of Carbapenemase enzymes in the clinical laboratory <b>Clair Stewart</b>	A structured approach to blood film reporting <b>Matt Wright</b>
12.30pm – 1.30pm	<b>Lunch</b>			
<b>THEME</b>	<b>Transfusion</b>	<b>Microbiology</b>	<b>Anatomical Pathology</b>	<b>Haemostasis</b>
1.30pm – 2.00pm	Red Cell Reference Overview and Interesting Case Review <b>Lifeblood Red Cell Lab</b>	Differences and challenges providing a Microbiology service: Remote vs City <b>Paul Healy</b>	HPV Negative HSIL <b>Alina Miranda</b>	Case-based Review of the DDX of Thrombotic Microangiopathy <b>Ross Baker</b>
2.00pm – 2.30pm	Anti-CD38 Neutralisation - A Laboratory's Experience <b>Elle Colace and Elycce Webb</b>	Culture shift: a new rapid diagnostic approach for sepsis care <b>Matthew Payne</b>	Terrible tumours and other oddities at the dissection bench <b>Michael Bushe-Jones</b>	International Standardisation of ADAMTS-13 assays <b>Grace Gilmore</b>
2.30pm – 3.00pm	Governance and policy in transfusion medicine <b>Bradley Webster</b>	Corynebacterium diphtheriae outbreak in WA <b>Daniel Knight and Jade Healy</b>	Fine needle aspiration of a peculiar PEComa presenting in the axillary tail of a female patient <b>Taylah Sanders</b>	TTP Case Study <b>Bridget Hodgkinson</b>



3.00pm – 3.30pm	<b>Afternoon Tea</b>
3.30pm – 4.30pm	Genetic testing for Prenatal diagnosis of Haemoglobinopathies, Thalassaemia and Haemophilia A. <b>Kerryn Weekes, Thalassaemia and Haemophilia Molecular Reference Laboratory, Monash Medical Centre; 2026 AIMS Travelling Orator</b>
4.30PM – 5.30PM	Growing red blood cells for therapeutics <b>Dr Becky Griffiths, Australian Red Cross Lifeblood</b>
5.30pm – 7.30pm	<b>Welcome Cocktail Reception</b>

## THURSDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2026

TIME	SESSION			
7.30am – 8.30am	<b>Registration</b>			
8.30am – 9.30am	Improving Plasma EBV DNA Analysis for Screening and Management of Nasopharyngeal Cancer <b>Professor Allen Chan, The Chinese University of Hong Kong</b>			
9.30am – 10.30am	It takes a village to raise a child: Omico and precision oncology <b>Associate Professor Mandy Ballinger, University of NSW</b>			
10.30am – 11.00am	<b>Morning Tea</b>			
THEME	Immunology	Forensics	Biochemistry	AIMS REGS
11.00am – 11.30am	Hereditary Alpha-Tryptasaemia (HaT) Testing at PathWest <b>Naser El-Lagta</b>	Credibility in forensic science: Quality and practice <b>Anna Heavey</b>	Point Of Care Testing <b>Elizabeth Byrnes</b>	Development and evaluation of new assays and test methods. Investigating AGO2, a Key Enzyme in the miRNA Pathway, as a Non-Invasive Diagnostic Biomarker for Solid Tumours and Evaluating the Potential of a Combined Panel with Conventional Tumour Markers for Improved Cancer Detection and Tumour Origin Identification. <b>Anila Hashmi</b>



11.30am -12.00pm	Pharmacogenomic Testing <b>TBC</b>	Enhancing Operational Performance in Forensic Science <b>Penny Cooper &amp; Colby Hymus</b>	Primary Aldosteronism <b>Nicola Sawyer</b>	Development and evaluation of new assays and test methods: validation of a multiplex assay for kynurenine pathway metabolites. <b>Md Munaf Hossen</b>
12.00pm – 12.30pm	Peanut allergies <b>Michael O’Sullivan</b>	DNA techniques to investigate cold cases <b>Gavin Turbett</b>	Bilirubin at point of care – meeting clinical needs and delivering positive patient outcomes <b>Sasa Trivic</b>	Seroprevalence and genotypic characterization of hepatitis B virus infections in the ABO blood types in Papua New Guinea Blood Donors. <b>Francisca Varpit</b> Improving the diagnostic accuracy of tests for haematological malignancies in resource-limited settings <b>Ailie Ross</b>
12.30pm – 1.30pm	<b>Lunch</b>			
1.30pm – 2.50pm	<b>Free Communications</b>			
2.50pm – 3.30pm	<b>Afternoon Tea</b>			
3.30pm – 5.00 pm	<b>AIMS Skills Development Pathway - Panel Presentation</b>			
7.00pm – 11.00pm	<b>NSM Gala Dinner</b>			



## FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2026

TIME	SESSION
7.30am – 8.30am	<b>Registration</b>
8.30am – 9.30am	Saal Foley Lecture <b>Mr Paul Schneider</b>
9.30am – 10.30am	Implementation of Next Generation Sequencing for the diagnosis of rare childhood diseases <b>Dr Richard Allcock</b>
10.30am – 11.00am	<b>Morning Tea</b>
11.00am – 11.30am	From Precision Peptides to Diagnostic Translation: Development of the Helitope Anti-CagA Serology Assay <b>Dr Samuel Lundin</b>
11.30am – 12.00pm	WA Emerging Innovator of the Year (2025) <b>Professor Rakesh Veedu, Progenis Pharmaceuticals</b>
12.00pm – 12.30pm	Using Genetically Variant Peptides to inform identification <b>Dr Joel Gummer, ChemCentre</b>
12.30pm – 1.00pm	Panel Discussion - AI and Big Data in Pathology <b>Prof Nicola Armstrong, Dr Alex Jenkins, Dr Jeremy Parry, Dr Sara Suk-Udom</b>
1.00pm – 2.00pm	<b>Closing Address and Lunch</b>

