

Northern Health

Research Week Edition

***Special
Allied Health
Edition***

20th - 24th October

MONDAY:

Poster session #1

TUESDAY:

**Lecture session – Stepping into
Research Symposium**

Poster session #2

WEDNESDAY:

**Best abstract oral
presentations session A**

FRIDAY:

**5-minute rapid fire
presentations**

ALL WEEK:

Digital posters in allied health



Northern Health Research Week ran over 5 days again this year, with activities scheduled throughout the week. Research week is a time to showcase the breadth of research occurring across allied health, meet inspiring researchers and learn from others producing research of their own, with this year's focus on innovation, collaboration, and discovery.

Congratulations to all allied health clinicians who submitted abstracts and/or were selected to present or showcase their work via a poster or oral presentation throughout the week. Details of all presentations and posters can be found in this newsletter and in the [full event schedule](#).

We hope you enjoyed the week and look forward to continuing to increase research output across allied health here at Northern Health again next year.

Thank you to all staff involved!

The Allied Health Research team (Dr Adam Semciw, Emily Farrugia, Dr Nikki Frescos and Dr Stephen Quick)

Northern Health acknowledges Victoria's Aboriginal communities and their rich culture and pays respect to their Elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge Aboriginal people as Australia's first peoples and as the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land (the Wurundjeri people) on which Northern Health's campuses are built.

We recognise and value the ongoing contribution of Aboriginal people and communities to our lives and we embrace the spirit of reconciliation, working towards the equality of outcomes and ensuring an equal voice.

Northern Health celebrates, values, and includes people of all backgrounds, genders, sexualities, cultures, bodies and abilities.



safekindtogether



RESEARCH WEEK
21-25 OCTOBER 2024
INSPIRED RESEARCHERS
Northern Health

Research Week events

DAY ONE

The week began with a grand opening and keynote speech, followed by the first poster session where selected researchers, students and clinicians had the opportunity to showcase their posters – well done to all presenters!

Congratulations to **Nadia Obeid (Dietetics)** on being accepted for a printed poster for this session. Details below:

Obeid, N., Evans, R., Gerges, C., Fouhy, R., Parastatidis Frimodt, R., Quinton, E. Malnutrition Point Prevalence Study 2025.



DAY TWO

On day two, we began with a symposium on “Health Research in the Digital Age”, chaired by Prof **Adam Semciw (AH Research)** and A/Prof Rebecca Jessup, featuring a presentation by Professor James Boyd (La Trobe University). This presentation described the transformation of healthcare driven by digital technology and highlighted the move to more consumer-led, digitally connected health care models. The presentation also identified a range of digital health solutions, opportunities and challenges of this shift, with a focus on health equity and the potential for a digital divide. The session’s focus then moved to sharing key lessons on equity from the Victorian Virtual Emergency Department followed by a panel discussion to conclude the session. Whilst Adam presented on VVED, **Tom Collins (Physiotherapy)** presented on “Advanced-Practice Physiotherapy in the VVED – Providing Emergency Musculoskeletal Care Across Victoria).



DAY TWO continued

This was followed by the Stepping Into Research Symposium, chaired by **Adam Semciw** and **Emily Farrugia (AH Research)** featuring the following:

- **Simone LeBel (Physiotherapy)**: Does early physiotherapy post discharge from acute hospital improve quality of life and physical function following lower limb elective arthroplasty?
- **Monika Sekulov (Speech Pathology)**: What is the impact of parent targeted allied health education delivered in neonatal units on the parenting role and developmental outcomes of high risk infants?



Simone LeBel



Monika Sekulov

- **Rebecca Turnbull (Exercise Physiology)**: Implementation of home-based high intensity interval training in patients with cardiac disease: A systematic review using the RE-AIM framework.
- **Jonathon Citroen (Physiotherapy)**: Does physiotherapy contact in the Emergency Department for patients discharged home, reduce representations? Systematic review and meta-analysis. *(Please note: Jonathon's online presentation will be circulated at a later date).*



Congratulations to **Simone LeBel** on also being accepted for a printed poster for *Poster Session #2* of her systematic review, completed as part of the Stepping into Research program in 2024, now published in [Musculoskeletal Care](#).



Simone LeBel and Adam Semciw

DAY THREE

Day 3 of poster presentations featured **Swapna Gokhale's** poster (Northern Health/La Trobe University Research Fellow/Physiotherapist) titled "Data-driven risk prediction to optimise delirium prevention" Well done!



DAY FOUR

Day 4 included a series of oral presentations and poster sessions, both in person and online. Congratulations to the following allied health clinicians accepted for digital posters:

- **Leahy, E., et al.** The effectiveness of online clinical mentoring on physiotherapists' clinical practice. A randomised controlled trial. (**Edmund Leahy – Physiotherapy**). Details [here](#).
- **Mackley, R.** Boney and Inflammatory Changes of the Ipsilateral Foot Following First Toe and Partial First Metatarsal Amputation: A Case Series. (**Rhiannon Mackley – Podiatry**). Details [here](#).
- **Quick, S.,... Jessup, R.,... Semciw, A.** Virtual Emergency Department for People with Dementia: Usage Patterns and Outcomes. (**Stephen Quick and Adam Semciw – AH Research**). Details [here](#).

DAY FIVE

The final day included "5-minute funding" rapid-fire presentations from Northern Health Chief Investigators on successful nationally competitive research grants. **Adam Semciw (AH Research)**, currently at the APA conference, presented on "Musculoskeletal Wellness Program: A virtual pre-operative program to support older adults through joint replacement surgery".

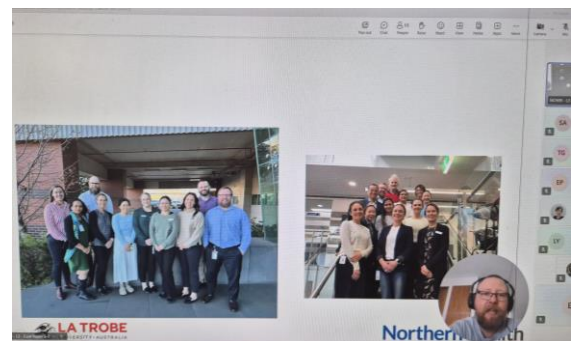


Image above: Musculoskeletal Team

The awards ceremony was then held to conclude Research Week. Congratulations to **Swapna Gokhale** for winning *third place for best oral presentation*.

That's a wrap...! Thank you again to all those involved in research week, showcasing an inspiring array of research across various disciplines here at Northern Health. We look forward to working with many staff on their projects into 2026 and celebrating an even bigger and better year. For any research queries or to express interest in starting a project, please reach out to the research team at AH.Research@nh.org.au.