



RESEARCH WEEK

19-22 OCTOBER 2026

INSPIRED RESEARCHERS

Northern Health

RESEARCH WITH IMPACT

Working to improve the health of our community



Thank you to our generous sponsors for supporting Research Week 2026.

Monday, 19th October 2026 – Day 1

Session 1: Grand Opening and Keynote (NCHER Lecture Theatre 1)

Chair: Professor Mayur Garg

12.00-12.30pm	Professor Debra Bourne , Chief Executive, Northern Health Professor Mayur Garg , Director of Research, Northern Health Title: Welcome to Research Week 2026 – Research With Impact
12.30 – 1.30pm	Keynote: Professor David Ashley , CEO, VCCC Alliance Title: VCCC Alliance: The Evolution of Cancer Care
1.30pm	Light Lunch and Networking (NCHER L1 Atrium)

Poster Session 1: (Main Foyer TNH Epping) (Posters mounted at 9am, removed at 5pm)

3.00-4.00pm	Poster authors in attendance to answer questions about their research • Abstract #19: SpO₂/FiO₂ Reference Ranges for Grading Respiratory Distress Syndrome in Moderate-Late Preterm Infants • Abstract #28: Impact of the 2024 ICSH Guidelines on Interpretation of Coagulation Mixing Studies in Routine Practice • Abstract #32: Going Home with a Tube: The changing profile of a multidisciplinary Home Enteral Nutrition (HEN) program • Abstract #44: Unused ('just-in-case') Peripheral Intravenous Cannulas in the Northern Health Epping Emergency Department: A retrospective audit • Abstract #48: Multimodal vibrational spectroscopy for colorectal tumour classification: preliminary findings from a feasibility pilot • Abstract #49: Stroke survivors' experience - Cognitive Screens • Abstract #58: Sleep, wellbeing and psychosis: understanding psychological processes for people with psychosis • Abstract #60: Association between CPET parameters and surgical decision making in a contemporary cohort
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Tuesday, 20th October 2026 – Day 2

Session 2: Research Careers for Nurses and Midwives (NCHER Lecture Theatre 1)

Chairs: Dr Rachel Cardwell, & Associate Professor Ken Hok-man Ho

9.30am- 10.30am	Presenters: Dr Rachel Cardwell, Senior Lecturer in Nursing and Graduate Research Coordinator, La Trobe University Associate Professor Ken Hok-man Ho, Associate Professor for School of Nursing and Midwifery, Latrobe University Title: Research Careers for Nurses and Midwives: Where Could Research Take You? A dedicated session designed for nurses and midwives interested in exploring how research can advance their clinical careers.
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Session 3: Equity Diversity and Inclusion (NCHER Lecture Theatre 1)

(With La Trobe University)

Chair: Professor Adam Semciw

11.00am -12.00pm	Allied Health Research Strategy Launch The launch of the Northern Health Allied Health Research Strategy 2027-2031 will set a vision for clinician-led, patient-centred research that improves care for our diverse community through innovation, collaboration and translation into practice. Keynote: Dr John Pierce Title: Putting people at the centre: Research, technology and better care
12.00	Light Lunch & Networking (NCHER L1 Atrium)

Session 4: Consumer Involvement in Research (NCHER Lecture Theatre 1)

Chairs: Associate Professor Kerry Fitzmaurice & Dr. Tilini Gunatillake

1.00 – 2.30pm	Presenters: Navneet Gill, NH Consumer Participation Coordinator Panel Discussion: Rachel Nolan, Allied Health, Tina Moody, Consumer, & Carrie Bloomfield, Director of Clinical Operations, GSK
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Poster Session 2: (Main Foyer TNH Epping) (Posters mounted at 9am, removed at 5pm)

3.00-4.00pm	Poster authors in attendance to answer questions about their research • Abstract #2: Acetabular Polar Gaps After Cementless Total Hip Arthroplasty: Incidence, Natural History, and Clinical Significance • Abstract #10: Tomorrow's Bed Crisis, Today: Predicting ICU Strain From Everyday Data • Abstract #11: What about fibre? Audit of current practices in prescribing enteral nutrition in people living with motor neurone disease • Abstract #22: Impact of Obesity in the Healthcare Utilisation of Elective Ventral Hernia Repairs. • Abstract #23: Rebuilding the bridge to practice: how supervisors and managers are supporting early career allied health professionals post pandemic • Abstract #52: Preoperative liquid fasting times and aspiration outcomes following Sip Til Send implementation: a post-implementation audit • Abstract #59: Outcomes of a Neonatal Rapid Review Clinic: A Two-Year Retrospective Audit of Readmissions and Risk Factors • Abstract #70: Nurse practitioner led hepatitis C treatment in mental health inpatient units
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Wednesday, 21st October 2026 – Day 3

Poster Session 3: (Main Foyer TNH Epping) (Posters mounted at 9am, removed at 5pm)

10.00-11.00am	Poster authors in attendance to answer questions about their research • Abstract #4: Nurses need care too: Shining a light on Mental Health Nurses' daily workplace challenges • Abstract #16: Improving collaborative care planning with consumers • Abstract #20: Enteral-First Management of Neonatal Hypoglycaemia: A Retrospective Matched Cohort Study • Abstract #29: Exploring the Sustainability of Medical Procedural Skills Teaching • Abstract #45: Patterns of Healthcare utilisation and palliative care in the last 12 months of life • Abstract #65: Barriers to advance care planning in decompensated cirrhosis: a clinician survey • Abstract #72: Family, domestic, and sexual violence presentations to a virtual emergency department: a retrospective cohort study
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Session 5: Research Grand Round – Translational Research (NCHER Lecture Theatre 1) (with RMIT University)

Chair: Associate Professor Russell Hodgson

12.00-1.00pm	Keynote: Professor Kate Fox, Professor of Biomedical Engineering and Deputy Dean Research for the School of Engineering at RMIT University Title: How can engineering work in partnership with clinical problems?
1.00pm	Light Lunch & networking (NCHER L1 Atrium)

Session 6: Best Abstract Oral Presentations Session (NCHER Lecture Theatre 1)

Chair: Associate Professor Justine Ellis

2.00-3.30pm	Oral presentations from the authors of the top-ranked abstract submissions: • Abstract #76: Intestinal Obstruction as a Major Driver of Inpatient Costs in Emergency Crohn's Disease Admissions: A 10-Year Retrospective Cohort Study. Presenter: Dr Jacoba Van Wees • Abstract #46: Should we adjust Group B Streptococcus screening in pregnancy? Antibiotic stewardship in intrapartum care. Presenter: Ms Courtney Zarucky • Abstract #3: Improved cardiovascular risk prediction in healthy older adults using mOHP: a case-control study from ASPREE. Presenter: Assoc. Professor Hui Yin Lim • Abstract #7: Assessment of Bereavement Risk and Feasibility of Bereavement Support Provision at an Acute Tertiary Hospital. Presenter: Assoc. Professor Jaclyn Yoong • Abstract #24: Feasibility Trial of Acceptance and Commitment Workplace Training in Australian. Presenter: Dr Marilyn Cugnetto • Abstract #26: Impact of "Sip 'til Send" on pre-operative fasting times and incidence of regurgitation and aspiration. Presenter: Ms Clare Walsh • Abstract #37: Pathways Back to Hospital: Emergency Department Presentations Among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Patients. Presenter: Andrew Morrison • Abstract #69: Does Patient Watch reduce hospital presentations and admissions? Programme Characteristics and Impact on Hospital Resource Utilisation Presenter: Professor Rebecca Jessup
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Thursday, 22nd October 2026 – Day 4

Session 7: Medical Grand Round (Main Hospital Lecture Theatre)

Chair: Associate Professor Craig Aboltins

8.00-9.00am

Keynote: Associate Professor Hui Yin Lim, Clinical and Laboratory Haematologist at Northern Health, Head of Diagnostic Haematology at Northern Pathology Victoria, Clinical Thrombosis Lead and Head of Thrombovascular Research for NECTAR Research Group
Title: NECTAR: From Discovery to Impact – Building the Future of Cardiovascular Precision Medicine at Northern Health

Poster Session 4: (Main Foyer TNH Epping) (Posters mounted at 9am, removed at 5pm)

1.00-2.00pm

Poster authors in attendance to answer questions about their research

- **Abstract #1:** Complication Profile of Uncemented Femoral Component Revision Total Hip Arthroplasty: A Systematic Review
- **Abstract #25:** Association between dietetic input and clinical outcomes in patients with hip or knee osteoarthritis
- **Abstract #27:** Long-term survival following an initial diabetes-related foot ulcer: A retrospective cohort study
- **Abstract #34:** Evaluating Northern Health's Parenteral Nutrition Guideline Against International Best Practice Standards
- **Abstract #38:** Understanding the Characteristics of Northern Health Support at Home Participants: An Observational Descriptive Study
- **Abstract #50:** Quality Assurance Evaluation of a Multidisciplinary Exercise Program in an Older Adult Mental Health Unit
- **Abstract #57:** Risk factors associated with delivery of small-for-gestational-age (SGA) infants in women with gestational diabetes

Session 8: Keynote Speaker (NCHER Level 3, Conference Room 3.1)

Chair: Dr Sing Chee Tan

3.30 – 4.30pm

Keynote: Prof Sunil Gupta, Head of AI, Optimisation, and Materials Discovery at Deakin University's Applied Artificial Intelligence Initiative
Title: AI in Health Research - Practical Applications Across the Research Lifecycle

Awards Ceremony, Wrap Up & Close (NCHER Level 3, Conference Room 3.1)

Chair: Professor Prahlad Ho

4:30 –
4:45pm

Awards Ceremony
Awards presented by **Professor Prahlad Ho** (CMO) and **NH Foundation Representative**
Best Poster Awards, People's Choice Poster (including digital posters) and Best Oral Presentation awards including the Peter Brooks Research Award.

4:45pm

Wrap up & Close

End of Research Week

Canapes sponsored by Northern Health Foundation.