

# Genomics InSPiRD Showcase

Innovative and Strategic Partnerships  
in Research Development

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## 2026 PROGRAM

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**Date:** Thursday 21 May 2026  
**Time:** 8.00am–4.30pm,  
followed by networking and refreshments  
**Location:** Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre, Sky Room



**DELIVERING**  
FOR QUEENSLAND



**Queensland**  
Government

| Time                                                               | Activity                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| Plenary Chair: Dr Saras Menon, Director Genomics Program           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 8.00am–8.30am                                                      | <b>Registration and networking</b><br>BCEC Sky Room foyer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 8.30am–8.35am                                                      | <b>Official showcase open &amp; welcome</b><br>Dr Saras Menon, Director Genomics Program                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 8.35am–8.50am                                                      | <b>Welcome to Country, song &amp; didgeridoo show</b><br>Shannon Ruska, Tribal Experiences                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 8.50am–8.55am                                                      | <b>Welcome and opening remarks</b><br>Executive Director, System Strategy,<br>System Policy and Planning Division,<br>Queensland Health                                                                                                                                                         |
| 8.55am–9.20am                                                      | <b><i>Genomics Australia – setting a vision and<br/>roadmap for health genomics in Australia</i></b><br>Tiffany Boughtwood, Australian Health<br>Genomics Commissioner                                                                                                                          |
| 9.20am–9.50am                                                      | <b><i>Where genomics meets care: walking beside<br/>families through the QCH genetic counselling<br/>liaison service</i></b><br>Pauline McGrath, Principal Genetic Counsellor,<br>Children’s Health Queensland & Jaymee Hughes,<br>Parent/Carer Advocate                                        |
| 9.50am–10.15am                                                     | <b><i>Building genomics health literacy through<br/>community-led co-design with First Nations<br/>champions</i></b><br>Greg Pratt, Principal Research Fellow, Jawun Research<br>Institute, CQU & Jenny Timor & Patrice Harald, First Nations<br>Community Champions Representatives            |
| <b>10.15am–10.35am</b>                                             | <b>Morning tea<br/>Networking and poster displays</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Plenary Chair: A/Prof David Wyld, Director, Medical Oncology, RBWH |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 10.35am–10.50am                                                    | <b><i>Building a genomics education hub: improving access<br/>to information for healthcare professionals<br/>and patients</i></b><br>Dr Chirag Patel, Clinical Geneticist, Genetic Health<br>Queensland (GHQ) GREaT Group Chair & Senel Idrisoglu,<br>Senior Project Officer, Genomics Program |



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| 10.50am–11.05am                                                | <p><b><i>Genomics through our eyes: co-designing consumer resources to support patients and families navigating the healthcare system</i></b></p> <p>Chelsea Gourgaud, Principal Engagement Officer<br/>Genomics Program &amp; Sandy Minck, Genomics Consumer Advisory Group (CAG) Representative</p>                    |
| 11.05am–11.20am                                                | <p><b><i>Genetics immersion program from the perspective of a kidney doctor</i></b></p> <p>Dr Julia Jefferis, Nephrologist, Mater Hospital</p>                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 11.20am–11.35am                                                | <p><b><i>Beyond Standards: building the systems that enable reliable genomic variant interpretation</i></b></p> <p>Dr Alicia Byrne, Genomics research scientist,<br/>James Cook University</p>                                                                                                                           |
| 11.35am–11.55am                                                | <p><b><i>The power of genomics in longitudinal cohorts: insights for endometriosis</i></b></p> <p>Dr Sally Mortlock, Australian Women and Girls' Health Research Centre, The University of Queensland</p>                                                                                                                |
| 11.55am–12.15pm                                                | <p><b><i>Shared knowledge, better care: building Pharmacogenomics (PGx) literacy across the community and workforce</i></b></p> <p>Dr Annalese Semmler, Senior Lecturer,<br/>Research Lead, Queensland University of Technology</p>                                                                                      |
| 12.15pm–1.10pm                                                 | <p><b>Lunch</b><br/><b>Networking and poster displays</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Plenary Chair: Rehan Villani, Research Officer, QIMR Berghofer |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 1.10pm–1.35pm                                                  | <p><b><i>A new rhythm: embedding genetic counsellors in cardiology</i></b></p> <p>Aimée Dane and Allison Rutstein Genetic Counsellors,<br/>Prince Charles Cardiac Genomics Service and Prof Haris Haqqani, Cardiologist</p>                                                                                              |
| 1.35pm–1.50pm                                                  | <p><b><i>Implementing metagenomic diagnostic approaches at PQ central</i></b></p> <p>Dr Timothy Kidd, Senior Genomics Scientist,<br/>Central Microbiology, Pathology Queensland</p>                                                                                                                                      |
| 1.50pm–2.05pm                                                  | <p><b><i>GaimitFaST: The Gut and Its Microbiome In The Fight against Superbug Threats</i></b></p> <p>Dr Sanmarié Schlebusch, University of Queensland researcher and Medical Director Microbiology, Virology, &amp; Genomics, Public &amp; Environmental Health Reference Laboratories (PEHRL), Pathology Queensland</p> |



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| 2.05pm–2.30pm                                                                                                                                           | <p><b><i>Implementation of CD138+ enrichment platform for downstream genetic testing in plasma cell disorders</i></b></p> <p>Dr Sarbjit Riyat, Supervising Scientist, Cytogenetics, Discipline of Genomics, Pathology Queensland &amp; Dr. Nicholas Weber, Haematologist RBWH</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 2.30pm–2.55pm                                                                                                                                           | <p><b><i>Triploid-diploid mosaicism: an unexpected rescue of a monogenic condition</i></b></p> <p>Prof Wayne Crismani, Researcher, St Vincent's Institute of Medical Research Melbourne &amp; Dr. Pasquale Barbaro, Paediatric Haematologist, Queensland Children's Hospital</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>2.55pm–3.15pm</b>                                                                                                                                    | <p><b>Afternoon tea</b></p> <p><b>Networking and poster displays</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <p><b>Plenary Chair: Prof Andrew J. Mallett, Director of Clinical Research &amp; Consultant Nephrologist Townsville Hospital and Health Service</b></p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 3.15pm–3.55pm                                                                                                                                           | <p><b>Panel Moderator: Prof Andrew J. Mallett</b></p> <p><b>Topic: <i>Second looks, new diagnoses: the power of going back to the genome</i></b></p> <p><b>Panellists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A/Prof Aideen McInerney-Leo, Deputy Associate Dean, The University of Queensland</li> <li>• Dr Chirag Patel, Clinical Geneticist, Genetic Health Queensland</li> <li>• Greg Pratt, Principal Research Fellow, Jawun Research Institute, CQU</li> <li>• Prof Zornitza Stark, Clinical Geneticist, Victorian Clinical Genetics Services</li> <li>• Ben Lundie, Supervising Scientist, Genomics, Pathology Queensland</li> <li>• Dr Ashleigh Sullivan, Paediatric Oncologist, Children's Health Queensland</li> </ul> |
| 3.55pm–4.20pm                                                                                                                                           | <p><b><i>Whose genomes are missing? Equity and representation in the future of Genomic Medicine: A UK perspective</i></b></p> <p>Dr Veline L'Esperance, Senior Clinical Advisor, NHS Race and Health Observatory</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <p><b>Chair: Executive Director, System Strategy, System Policy and Planning Division, Queensland Health</b></p>                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 4.20pm–4.25pm                                                                                                                                           | <p><b>Poster prize winners announced</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 4.25pm–4.30pm                                                                                                                                           | <p><b>Closing remarks</b></p> <p>Executive Director, System Strategy, System Policy and Planning Division, Queensland Health</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 4.30pm–6.00pm                                                                                                                                           | <p><b>Networking and refreshments</b></p> <p>BCEC Sky Room Deck</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |