



# **ANZHS HEADACHE ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING 2025**

**30 – 31 AUGUST**

**SWISSOTEL, 68 MARKET STREET, SYDNEY**

We are excited to welcome all delegates to the 2025 Australian and New Zealand Headache Society Annual Scientific Meeting, held on the lands of the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation.

The meeting will once again cover a broad range of clinical and scientific aspects of Headache Medicine, in a mix of presentations, expert discussions and the ever popular group case discussion and injectables workshops. We are delighted to welcome our keynote speaker, Professor Simona Sacco, Professor of Neurology and Director of the Residency programme at the University of L'Aquila, Editor-in-Chief of *Cephalalgia* and president of the European Stroke Organisation. Professor Sacco leads a series of presentations on the complex interplay between migraine, vascular risk and hormonal factors that remain often complex areas of management, and we welcome her insights on this, as well as her expert tips on what makes a great research manuscript.

During the meeting, several awards will be made, including The Peter Goadsby Award for the best scientific abstract, the Jim Lance Award presented for the best clinical case, and new in 2025 a travel grant in memory of Paul Spira for the best abstract.

We hope you find the meeting informative for your practice, and make new friends and connections through the networking evening, discussion sessions and breaks.

We look forward to meeting you in Sydney!

Dr Elspeth Hutton  
**President, ANZHS**

A/Prof Lauren Sanders  
**Chair, ANZHS Education Committee**

Dr Trudy Cheng  
**Co- Secretary, Events**

## Conference Venue

Swissôtel Sydney, 68 Market Street, Sydney, NSW 2000  
**Tel:** 02 9238 8888

**Conference Room:** Blaxland Ballroom B – Level 8

**Exhibition/catering:** Pre-function area outside the Blaxland Ballroom B- Level 8

For enquires throughout the conference, contact Kathleen Poon, Events Manager

**M:** 0402 891 804 **E:** [kath@kathpoonevents.com.au](mailto:kath@kathpoonevents.com.au)

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## Saturday 30th August

**Keynote speaker: Simona Sacco**

7.30-8.30

Pfizer Satellite breakfast symposia  
Maple Room, 8th Floor, Swissôtel

Topic- Management of migraine patients with rimegepant  
and CGRP mAbs - Prof. Stark's clinical experience

Speaker: Prof. Richard Stark

### Session 1: 9.00-10.30 Vascular considerations in migraine

**Sponsored by Pfizer**

<b>Chair</b>		<b>Lauren Sanders</b>
9.00	Opening of session and welcome	<b>Elspeth Hutton</b>
9.05-9.35	From aura to stroke	<b>Simona Sacco</b>
9.35- 9.55	The "other" vascular headaches	<b>Jane Prosser</b>
9.55-10.15	Genetics in the headache clinic	<b>Lyn Griffiths</b>
10.15-10.35	Expert panel discussion with Q and A	
10.35-10.55	<b>Morning tea</b>	

### Session 2: Headache: Beyond the Brain

**Sponsored by Abbvie**

10.55	Opening of session by chairperson	<b>Cathy Stark</b>
11.00-11.25	What neurologists need to know about hormonal therapies in migraine management	<b>John Eden</b>
11.25-11.45	Metabolic considerations in migraine	<b>Jenny Gunton</b>
11.45-12.05	Update in Giant Cell Arteritis	<b>Tony Sammel</b>
12.05-12.30	Expert panel discussion with Q and A	
12.30-1.20	<b>Lunch, including poster walk</b>	

## Session 3: Scientific oral presentations & science update

Chair

Calvin Chan

Scientific oral presentations 1.15-2.40 (Rosamund Hill)

1.20 What makes a great research manuscript

Simona Sacco

1.30 Oral platforms

Clinical cases: Jordan Lee, Lyndal Van Leer, Afshan Jamil

Research Reports: Minnie Tou, Somayeh Nasergivehchi, Faraidoon Haghdooost

Work In Progress: Antony Sutherland

2.40 "when are acute therapies not pain killers?"  
• Gepants, Triptans & PACAPs  
• Why does it work? Oxygen, indomethacin

Debbie Hay  
Usman Ashraf

3.25 Expert panel discussion with Q and A" Debbie Hay, Michael Eller, Elspeth Hutton

3.40-4.00 Afternoon tea

## Session 4: Ask the expert small group case workshop 4:00-5.15pm

4.00-5.15 Small group case workshops with experts

1. Inpatient management of migraine (Richard Stark/ Lucie Aldous)
2. Cervicogenic headache & migraine (Cathy Stark/ Michael Eller)
3. Post stroke headache (Tamsin Hillard/ Simona Sacco)

5.15-6.45 Drinks & canapes networking for delegates and sponsors

## Sunday 31st August

### Session 6: Complex cases - MDT approach – nurturing the sensitive brain (and its owner)

Sponsored by Lundbeck

8.30	Opening of session by chairperson	Ben Tsang
8.35-8.55	When you're not winning: Headache beyond ICHD	Elspeth Hutton
8.55-9.15	Migraine management in people with Autism & ADHD	Tony Attwood
9.15-9.35	Expert MDT panel discussion for Q and A	
9.35-10.00	Interactive grand rounds case	Jane Prosser & Tamsin Hilliard
10.00-10.15	Morning tea	

### Session 7: Evolving concepts

Sponsored by Teva

10.15	Opening of session by chairperson	Elspeth Hutton
10.20-10.50	Early treatment in migraine prevention	Simona Sacco
11.10-11.30	Approach to migraine with motor symptoms	Richard Stark
11.30-11.50	Update in Cluster Headache management	Calvin Chan
11.50-12.10	Expert panel discussion for Q and A	
12.10-12.15	Presentation of awards	Elspeth Hutton
12.15-12.45	Lunch	
12.45-1.45	Practical Injectables workshop	



## PROFESSOR SIMONA SACCO

Simona Sacco is professor of Neurology at the University of L'Aquila in Italy and Director of the local Clinical Neurology and Stroke Unit. Dr. Sacco is author of more than 400 publications in the field of stroke and headache. She is the president of the European Stroke Organisation (ESO). She has extensive editorial activity and has the role of Editor-in-Chief of Cephalalgia and Cephalalgia Reports since 2024. She has chaired several migraine guidelines and consensus documents on behalf of the International Headache Society and the European Headache Federations.





## DR USMAN ASHRAF

Dr Usman Ashraf is an Australian neurologist with subspecialty fellowships in headache. He currently works as a Clinical Research Fellow with the Headache Group of Professor Peter Goadsby at King's College London. He is passionate about improving awareness about headache amongst clinicians and the general public, providing compassionate care for his patients, as well as translational and clinical research into the biology of headache disorders and how treatments work.



## PROFESSOR TONY ATTWOOD

Tony is a clinical psychologist who has specialised in Autism Spectrum Disorders since he qualified as a clinical psychologist in England in 1975. He has his own private practice, is a director of Attwood & Garnet Events, and is also adjunct professor at Griffith University, Queensland. His book *Asperger's Syndrome – A Guide for Parents and Professionals* has sold over 750,000 copies and has been translated into 27 languages. His subsequent book, *The Complete Guide to Asperger's Syndrome*, published in October 2006 has sold over 400,000 copies and has been translated into 19 languages, and is one of the primary textbooks on Asperger's syndrome, otherwise known as Autism Spectrum Disorder – Level 1. He has several subsequent books published by Jessica Kingsley Publishers, Future Horizons Inc. and Guilford Press on anxiety and depression, relationships and sexuality, employment and general advice for autistic children and adults.

He has worked with many thousands of autistic individuals of all ages with many expressions of autism.





## DR CALVIN CHAN

Calvin Chan is a neurologist and the Clinical Lead at Palmerston North Hospital, New Zealand. He completed his fellowship in Headache with the Headache Group at King's College London and continues to contribute as an affiliate. Academically, he is an Honorary Clinical Lecturer for the School of Medicine, Wellington, University of Otago and contributes to the GPEP1 neurology teaching for the Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners. He has served and continues as a council member of the ANZHS.



## DR JOHN EDEN

Dr John Eden (MB BS MD RCOG RANZCOG CREI) is a reproductive endocrinologist and gynaecologist. He is a Conjoint Professor in the Department of Women and Children's Health, Royal Hospital for Women (UNSW).

He is a VMO at the Royal Hospital for Women, Sydney, where he is Head of the Menopause Unit. He is a member of the Breast Cancer MDT at Prince of Wales Hospital Randwick. John is on the executive committee and co-chair of the NSW Health (ACI) Menopause Hub project. His research and clinical interests include managing menopause after breast cancer, early menopause, hormones and mood disorders, PMDD and hormonal migraine.



## PROFESSOR LYN GRIFFITHS

Prof Lyn Griffiths is a Distinguished Professor in molecular genetics with more than 30 years' research experience in this field. She is also Director of the Centre for Genomics and Personalised Health which is focused on discovering better methods of diagnosing disease, developing targeted treatments based on genetic information, and training the next generation of genomics scientists. In addition, she is a passionate advocate of the translation of medical research through commercialisation and is currently the Director of the MTP Connect and industry-led Bridge and BridgeTech programs, undertaking commercialisation training for the pharmaceutical and medical devices-technology fields across Australia, respectively. Her own genetics research at the Genomics Research Centre has led to diagnostic breakthroughs for several neurogenetic disorders, including familial migraine, ataxia, epilepsy and hereditary stroke. Her research has appeared in more than 470 peer reviewed international journals, and she has been awarded significant competitive and industry research funds to support her molecular and population genetics research.



## PROFESSOR JENNY GUNTON

Professor Jenny Gunton completed her medical degree at University of Queensland followed by Endocrinology and Diabetes Specialist training and then a PhD in Molecular Biology with University of Sydney. Her post-doctoral studies were in the laboratory of Prof C Ron Kahn at Joslin Diabetes Centre and Harvard Medical School.

Professor Gunton is currently the President-Elect for the Endocrine Society of Australia. She is the Director of the Centre for Diabetes and Obesity Research at the Westmead Institute for Medical Research and Chair of Medicine at Westmead Hospital, The University of Sydney. Prof Gunton's clinical interests include diabetes, obesity, and brittle bone disease.



## PROFESSOR DEBBIE HAY

Debbie (BSc(Hons) [Sheffield], PhD [Imperial College London]) is a Fellow of the British Pharmacological Society (FBPhS) and a Fellow of the Royal Society Te Apārangi (FRSNZ). Research in her laboratory focuses on CGRP and related receptors, their role in migraine and the pharmacology of CGRP pathway blocking drugs.



## DR TAMSIN HILLIARD

Dr Hilliard is a Neurologist specialising in headache and facial pain disorders. Born and raised in Tasmania, she completed her neurology training at the Royal Hobart Hospital and The Alfred Hospital in Melbourne, completing the Alfred headache fellowship in 2024. In 2023 she was selected to attend the iHEAD academy in Seoul, South Korea for early career headache researchers and is currently completing a Master's by Research at Monash University, focusing on the efficacy of advanced migraine treatments for non-headache symptoms in migraine. Dr Hilliard is passionate about reducing the significant burden of migraine and other headache disorders in Tasmania through accurate diagnosis, education, and evidence-based care.



## DR ELSPETH HUTTON

Dr Elspeth Hutton (PhD, FRACP, MBBS, BMedSci(Hons)) is the current President of the Australian and New Zealand Headache Society and leads the Headache Service at Alfred Health, Melbourne. Dr Hutton established the first multidisciplinary headache service in a public teaching hospital in Australia, which has supported training of 5 headache fellows and 5 higher degree completions. She is engaged with consumer and policy groups to improve access to headache care in the region.



## DR JANE PROSSER

Dr Jane Prosser, MB BS PhD FRACP, is a Staff Specialist Neurologist at St George Hospital, and Director of the Stroke Service. She completed her neurology training at Royal Prince Alfred and Royal North Shore Hospitals and was awarded the ANZAN Fellowship in Neurology at the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery in London where she worked for Prof Peter Goadsby who fostered her interest in headache disorders. She completed a Stroke Research Fellowship at the University of Melbourne/Royal Melbourne Hospital where her PhD thesis examined the relationship between stroke and heart disease using MRI under the supervision of Professor Stephen Davis.



## A/PROF TONY SAMMEL

A/Prof Tony Sammel is the Head of Rheumatology at Prince of Wales Hospital and has subspecialty clinical and research expertise in vasculitis. He leads the weekly rheumatology vasculitis clinic and quarterly vasculitis MDT at POWH and is a director and founding member of the Australian and New Zealand Vasculitis Society.

He completed a PhD on advanced imaging and biomarkers in GCA and has lectured on GCA, systemic vasculitis and CNS limited vasculitis at Australian and international conferences.



## PROFESSOR RICHARD STARK AM

Richard Stark is Adjunct Clinical Professor, Department of Neuroscience, Monash University and Neurologist at the Alfred Hospital. He is a clinical neurologist with special interest in headache including training and research. He is passionate about teaching, especially clinical skills.

Leadership roles have included: Elected Treasurer and Trustee of the World Federation of Neurology (2 terms), Past President of ANZHS, Candidate for Presidency of IHS (2025).

Awards include: E Graham Robertson Award 2009, ANZAN Medal 2012, Noshir Wadia Orator at the AOCN/ IAN meeting 2022, Member of the Order of Australia (AM) 2019.