

Australian Medical Association Limited
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MEDIA ALERT

2019 AMA NATIONAL CONFERENCE - #amanatcon Sofitel Brisbane, 24-26 May 2019

The 2019 AMA National Conference at Sofitel Brisbane, from 24-26 May, will feature an impressive line-up of influential health leaders, speakers and panellists, prestigious awards, and international speakers.

International speakers include Dr Barbara McAneny, the President of the American Medical Association, and Dr Michael Myers, a specialist in doctors’ health and the author or co-author of 150 scientific publications and eight books, including *Why Physicians Die By Suicide: Lessons Learned from Their Families and Others Who Cared*.

Policy sessions include: *Doctors’ Health – Protecting Doctors and Their Families: A Call to Action*; *Aged Care – Improving Clinical Care in an Era of Financial Constraint*; *Artificial Intelligence in Health Care*; and *Reforming Australia’s Mental Health System*.

Delegates will also debate key contemporary health issues from the floor of the Conference.

Highlights of the Conference include:

Friday 24 May 2019:

10.00am **Opening Remarks**
 Welcome to Country
 National Anthem
 Declaration of Geneva

10.20am **President’s Address**
 AMA President, Dr Tony Bartone

10.45am **Policy and Advocacy Session**
 Doctors’ Health – Protecting Doctors and Their Families: A Call to Action

Panellists:

- Dr Michael Myers, Professor of Clinical Psychiatry at SUNY-Downstate Medical Centre, Brooklyn, New York, and specialist in physician health
- Dr Penny Browne, Chief Medical Officer, Avant
- Dr Geoff Toogood, cardiologist and founder of CrazySocks4Docs Day
- Dr Jessica Dean, intensive care trainee and beyondblue board director
- Dr Helen Schultz, psychiatrist and doctors’ mental health advocate

Chair:

Dr Mukesh Haikerwal AC, Chair, Advisory Committee, beyondblue’s National Doctors’ Mental Health Program

- 1.15pm **Award Presentation**
MJA, MDA National Prize for Excellence in Medical Research
AMA Indigenous Medical Scholarship
- 2.30pm **Policy and Advocacy Session**
Aged Care – Improving Clinical Care in an Era of Financial Constraint
Panellists:
Ms Janet Anderson, inaugural Commissioner, Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission
Ms Annie Butler, Federal Secretary, Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation
Dr Chris Davis, Geriatrician and past AMA Qld President
Professor Andrew Robinson, Co-Founder, Wicking Dementia Research and Education Centre
Ms Pat Sparrow, CEO, Aged and Community Services Australia (ACSA)
Chair:
Dr Richard Kidd, Chair, AMA Council of General Practice
- 4pm **Award Presentation**
AMA Excellence in Healthcare Award
AMA Woman in Medicine Award
- 4.15pm **New Admissions to the AMA Roll of Fellows**
- 5.30pm **President’s Welcome Reception**
AMA Advocacy Awards
- 7.30pm **AMA Leadership Development Dinner**
Blackbird Restaurant, Eagle Street Pier
Speaker: **Dr Barbara McAneny**, President, American Medical Association
[Media to advise if they wish to attend this Dinner]**

Saturday 25 May 2019:

- 9.00am **Policy and Advocacy Session**
Artificial Intelligence in Health Care
Panellists:
Professor Justin Beilby, Vice Chancellor, Torrens University Australia
Professor Enrico Coiera, Director, Centre for Health Informatics (CHI) and NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence in Digital Health
Dr Lance Lawler, President, Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (RANZCR)
Dr Louise Schaper, CEO, Health Informatics Society of Australia (HISA)
Chair:
Dr Omar Khorshid, Orthopaedic surgeon and AMA(WA) President
- 10.25am **Address, Mr Tim Kelsey, CEO, Australian Digital Health Agency**

- 11.00am **Policy Debates**
 Topics to be debated from the floor of the Conference include:
- *Paid family and domestic violence leave*
 - *Should all GP registrars be employed under single employer contracts?*
 - *Alcohol use in pregnancy*
 - *Introducing targets for rural research funding and facilities*
 - *The implications of non-fatal strangulation in family violence*
 - *16 per cent of the Federal health budget should be the mandated minimum spend on general practice*
 - *Credentialed pharmacists in rural and remote areas*
 - *Implementation of a National Credentialing Platform.*
- 12:25pm **Address, Dr Penny Browne, Chief Medical Officer, Avant**
- 3.30pm **Policy and Advocacy Session**
Reforming Australia's Mental Health System
Panellists:
 Dr Tony Bartone, AMA President
 Professor Ian Hickie, Co-Director, Health and Policy, Brain and Mind Centre, The University of Sydney
 Dr Margaret Kay, Medical Director, Queensland Doctors' Health Program
 Associate Professor David Mountain, Emergency Physicians representative, AMA Federal Council
Chair:
 Dr Sebastian Rosenberg, mental health policy academic and consultant
- 7.00pm **Gala Dinner**
 Brisbane City Hall
 AMA President's Award presentation
 AMA Gold Medal presentation

Sunday 26 May 2019:

- 8.00am **Sunday Breakfast**
 Informal discussion of contemporary policy and politics
- 9.00am **The Great Workforce Debate**
Topic: Australia has an oversupply of doctors, and the current model of medical school and vocational training is no longer fit for purpose in this context.
- Participants:**
 Dr Roderick McRae, AMA Victoria Vice President and Public Hospital Practice representative, AMA Federal Council
 A/Prof Susan Neuhaus, consultant surgeon and former Army officer
 Dr Ines Rio, GP and Chair, North Western Melbourne Primary Health Network
 Clinical A/Prof Dr Saxon Smith, dermatologist and AMA Federal Councillor
 Ms Jacoba van Wees, Chair, Rural Health Committee, Australian Medical Students' Association (AMSA)
 Dr Chris Wilson, Co-Chair, AMA Council of Doctors in Training

Chair:

Dr Chris Zappala, AMA Vice President and Chair, AMA Medical Workforce Committee

- 10.15am **Australian Medical Students' Association (AMSA) Address**
AMSA President, Ms Jessica Yang
- 11.00am **Soapbox**
- 12.00 noon **Conference concludes**

*******Notes for media:*******

Some sessions will be live streamed on the AMA website at <https://ama.com.au/> and <https://natcon.ama.com.au>

Media are welcome to attend the Conference, Gala Dinner, Leadership Development Dinner, and Welcome Reception.

There will be a media work room at the venue, and a room for media conferences and interviews.

Media should report to Registration Desk or Media Room to collect Conference lanyards.

Please advise Maria Hawthorne at mhawthorne@ama.com.au or on 02 6270 5478 if you will be attending the Conference, Gala Dinner, Leadership Development Dinner, and Welcome Reception.

Journalists and crews attending the Conference to interview participants should liaise with Maria Hawthorne at mhawthorne@ama.com.au or on 0427 209 753, and Odette Visser at ovisser@ama.com.au or on 0407 726 905.

The Twitter hashtag for the Conference is **#amanatcon

8 May 2019

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Sponsors:

