

Health Conference Speaker Bios

Professor Nick Lennox

Professor Nick Lennox is a researcher, educator, advocate and medical specialist with significant expertise in intellectual disability. He was the previous Director of the Queensland Centre for Intellectual and Developmental Disability. Professor Lennox has specialised in the health of adults with intellectual disability since 1992. He has trained in general practice and also psychiatry. He completed his PhD on a randomised controlled trial of the Comprehensive Health Assessment Program (CHAP). He has developed several practical interventions to improve the health of people with intellectual disability.

Professor Lennox will give the opening plenary of the conference on the health implications and challenges of ageing faced by people with Down syndrome.

Professor Emeritus Trevor Parmenter

Professor Emeritus Trevor Parmenter was the Foundation Chair of Developmental Disability in the Sydney Medical School, University of Sydney, and established the Centre for Disability Studies at the Royal Rehabilitation Centre. A title of Professor Emeritus is a high academic honour which recognises his distinguished research and teaching career. Professor Parmenter has published widely on disability issues including employment, supported living, classification of support needs, behaviour support, mental and physical health, quality of life, family studies, and ageing. Professor Parmenter is a Past President of the International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IASSIDD). In 2005 he was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for his contributions to research, teaching and services to people with developmental disabilities.

Dr Aline Smith

Dr Aline Smith is a General Practitioner and Staff Specialist at the Academic Primary and Integrated Care Unit of Ingham Institute, Liverpool Hospital. She also works in her own GP Practice in the Inner West of Sydney. Aline is the mother of a son with Autism.

Dr Smith will present on how we can get the most out of our relationship with our GP.

Professor Julian Trollor

Professor Julian Trollor is a Neuropsychiatrist and the Inaugural Chair of Intellectual Disability Mental Health at the University of New South Wales. Professor Trollor is a world renowned expert on dementia in people with intellectual disability. He is involved in diverse research programs including ageing and cognitive decline in intellectual disability, intellectual disability in the criminal justice system, human rights and healthcare in intellectual disability, and ageing studies in the general population.

Professor Trollor will lead the session on dementia and Down syndrome.

Dr Liz Evans

Dr Liz Evans is a registered psychologist at University of NSW with a special interest in the mental health needs of people with intellectual disability. She is currently a recipient of an NHMRC-ARC Dementia Research Training Fellowship, which enables her to investigate age-related health and mental health in adults with intellectual disability.

Dr Evans will present in the session on dementia and Down syndrome, with Professor Trollor.

Dr Seeta Durvasula

Dr Seeta Durvasula is a medical doctor with extensive experience and expertise in intellectual disability health. She is the Clinical Director of two specialised multidisciplinary health clinics in Sydney for children and adults with intellectual disability. Seeta is a Senior Lecturer, Centre for Disability Studies, Sydney Medical School, University of Sydney. Her research interests are in mortality, falls, frailty, and health outcomes in people with intellectual disability.

Professor Vivienne Riches

Professor Vivienne Riches is a psychologist and an experienced researcher, lecturer and teacher in disability, special education and mental health. Professor Riches is based at the Centre for Disability Studies, Sydney Medical School, University of Sydney, and also sees clients at the Ryde Centre for Disability.

Vivienne was inducted into the Disability Employment Australia *Hall Of Fame in 2013* in recognition of her contribution to Disability Employment.

Dr Antonia Scott

Dr Antonia Scott is a dentist, and was previously Head of Dental Radiology, teaching dental students at Faculty of Dentistry, University of Sydney and at Charles Sturt University. She is now undertaking her PhD research into the dental health of adults with Down syndrome through the Faculty of Medicine and Health, University of Sydney and is an Honorary Research Fellow at Sydney Dental Hospital.

Dr Scott will lead the session on Dental Health for people with Down syndrome.