



# 8th Southern Cross Australasian Travel and Tropical Medicine Conference

Friday 12 to Sunday 14 September 2025 - Sofitel Melbourne on Collins

*Theme: Timeless Threats and New Frontiers in Travel & Tropical Medicine*

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# 8th Southern Cross Australasian Travel and Tropical Medicine Conference

Friday 12 to Sunday 14 September 2025 - Sofitel Melbourne on Collins

## Welcome from ACTM President



Distinguished guests, colleagues, and friends—welcome to the 8th Travel and Tropical Medicine Conference. This year's theme, "*Timeless Threats and New Frontiers in Travel and Tropical Medicine*," invites us to reflect on the enduring challenges

we face, while also embracing the innovations and discoveries that will shape the future. Over the coming two and a half days, you will experience a fantastic program of presentations, workshops, and posters. We are honoured to welcome our international speakers: Professor Priscilla Rupali from India, Dr. Dipti Patel from the United Kingdom, and former astronaut Professor David Hilmer from the United States. Of course, a conference is only possible through the dedication of many. Thank you to those who have worked tirelessly behind the scenes. We also thank our sponsors, whose generous support has helped bring this conference to life. Together, let us make the most of this opportunity—to learn, to connect, and to strengthen the global community of travel and tropical medicine.

**Prof Richard Franklin**

## ACTM Executive

- **President**  
Prof Richard Franklin
- **Immediate Past President**  
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## Scientific Program Committee

### Co-Chairs

- Dr Sarah McGuinness
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### Members:

- Prof Colleen Lau
- Dr Sarah Chu
- A/Prof Luis Furuya-Kanamori
- Dr Myra Hardy
- Dr Jonathan Cohen

## Conference Organising Committee

- Prof Richard Franklin
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- Ms Selina Ward



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## ENDING THE NEGLECT THROUGH GREATER ACCESS & GREATER EFFECTIVENESS

ENGAGE (Ending the Neglect through Greater Access and Greater Effectiveness) is a Centre of Research Excellence (CRE) funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). It is a multi-institutional research consortium dedicated to advancing the control and elimination of NTDs in Australia and the Asia-Pacific region.

A pre-conference session devoted to recent findings in NTD research, followed by a panel discussion on the implications of the transformed global health funding environment on NTD research. Attendance is complimentary for SCTMC delegates.

### When

Thursday 11 September 2025  
14:00-16:30

### Where

Room 803, Monash College City Campus  
750 Collins Street, Docklands, Melbourne

### Contact

Jun Aoki, The Kirby Institute, UNSW  
([jaoki@kirby.unsw.edu.au](mailto:jaoki@kirby.unsw.edu.au))

### Sofitel Melbourne on Collins WiFi

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### Conference Secretariat

- E: [admin@sctravelmedconference.com](mailto:admin@sctravelmedconference.com)



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## FRIDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2025 - Sofitel Melbourne on Collins

08:00 – 08:30 Grand Ballroom Foyer	<b>REGISTRATION</b> After registering, arrival coffee and tea will be available in Sofi's Lounge, an opportunity to meet the sponsors and network with other delegates. Speaker Presentations can be checked with the AV team at the registration desk.				
8:30 – 09:00 Brisbane & Sydney Rooms	<b>OPENING SESSION TROPICAL MEDICINE</b> <b>Welcome to Country</b> Conference Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prof Richard Franklin, James Cook University, Queensland &amp; ACTM President</li> <li>• Dr Sarah McGuinness, Monash University, Victoria, ACTM Vice-President &amp; Scientific Program Chair</li> </ul>				
09:00 – 10:30 Brisbane & Sydney Rooms	<b>PLENARY: BEYOND THE TROPICS: ADDRESSING INFECTIOUS THREATS IN OUR REGION</b> Chairs: Dr Steve Muhi, University of Melbourne, Victoria & Dr Jenny Visser, University of Otago, New Zealand				
09:00 – 09:30	<b>2025 Les Ashdown Oration</b> Typhoid: tackling antimicrobial resistance and advancing control <b>Prof Priscilla Rupali</b> , Christian Medical College (CMC), Vellore, India				
09:30 – 10:00	Buruli ulcer: Close to home <b>A/Prof Daniel O'Brien</b> , Barwon Health, Victoria				
10:00 – 10:30	Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases: integrated approaches to control & elimination <b>Prof Leanne Robinson</b> , Burnet Institute, Victoria				
10:30 – 11:00 Sofi's Lounge	<b>MORNING TEA &amp; POSTER VIEWING</b>				
11:00 – 12:30 Brisbane Room	<b>PANEL 1: CONTROLLED HUMAN INFECTION MODELS (CHIMs): PROMISE AND CHALLENGES</b>  Moderator: Dr Julia Marshall, Doherty Institute, Victoria	11:00 – 12:30 Sydney Room	<b>WORKSHOP 1: GETTING STARTED IN TRAVEL MEDICINE</b> <b>Facilitator: Ms Caroline Nash</b> , Aspen Medical, Australian Capital Territory	11:00 – 12:30 Perth Room	<b>WORKSHOP 2: TUBERCULOSIS &amp; BCG VACCINATION</b> <b>Facilitator: Dr Jonathan Cohen</b> , Travel Clinics Australia, Victoria
11:00 – 11:15	Introduction to CHIMs: What they are, and why they matter <b>Dr Julia Marshall</b> , Doherty Institute, Victoria	11:00 – 11:30	Foundations and models of care: integrating travel health into your practice <b>Ms Danielle Peel</b> , Nurse Practitioner, Travel Clinics Australia, New South Wales		TB epidemiology, testing and treatment in Australia <b>Prof Justin Denholm</b> , Doherty Institute, Victoria



## FRIDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2025 - Sofitel Melbourne on Collins

11:15 – 12:30	<b>CHIMs in research and practice: examples and panel discussion</b> <b>Panellists:</b> Malaria, <b>Prof James McCarthy</b> , Doherty Institute, Victoria Strep A, <b>Dr Josh Osowicki</b> , Murdoch Children's Research Institute, Victoria Gonorrhoea, <b>Dr Eloise Williams</b> , Doherty Institute, Victoria Buruli ulcer, <b>Dr Stephen Muhi</b> , Doherty Institute, Victoria Ethics of CHIM, <b>A/Prof Zeb Jamrozic</b> , Monash University, Victoria	11:30 – 12:00	Inside the consult: risk assessment and prevention planning <b>Ms Catherine Keil</b> , Nurse Practitioner, Travel Health Practitioner, South Australia		<i>BCG vaccine responses and newer vaccines</i> <b>A/Prof Shidan Tosif</b> , Royal Children's Hospital, Victoria
		12:00 – 12:30	From knowledge to action: resources and case studies <b>Ms Tonia Buzzolini</b> , Registered Nurse, Travelvax, Queensland		BCG in a travel clinic setting <b>Dr Jonathan Cohen</b> , Travel Clinics Australia, Victoria & <b>Dr Jennifer Sisson</b> , Travel Doctor TMVC, Western Australia
12:30 – 13:30 Sofi's Lounge	<b>LUNCH &amp; POSTER VIEWING</b>				
13:30 – 15:00 Brisbane Room	<b>SYMPOSIUM 1: VIRAL HEPATITIS IN AUSTRALASIA: ADVANCES, CHALLENGES AND ELIMINATION GOALS</b>  <b>Chairs:</b> <b>Dr Myra Hardy</b> , Royal Children's Hospital, Victoria & <b>Dr Jonathan Cohen</b> , Travel Clinics Australia, Victoria	13:30 – 15:00 Sydney Room	<b>WORKSHOP 3: DESTINATION SOUTHEAST ASIA</b> <b>Facilitator:</b> <b>Ms Danielle Peel</b> , Nurse Practitioner, Travel Clinics Australia, New South Wales	13:30 – 15:00 Perth Room	<b>WORKSHOP 4: YELLOW FEVER</b> <b>Facilitator:</b> <b>Dr Jennifer Sisson</b> , Travel Doctor TMVC, Western Australia
13:30 – 14:00	Advances in hepatitis B diagnosis & management <b>Prof Alice Lee</b> , Macquarie University, New South Wales	13:30 – 13:55	Regional health landscape and traveller risk profiles <b>Ms Caroline Nash</b> , Aspen Medical, Australian Capital Territory		What is all the fuss and why am I here? <b>Dr Sonny Lau</b> , The Travel Doctor TMVC, Victoria
14:00 – 14:30	Advances in hepatitis C diagnosis & management <b>Prof Joseph Doyle</b> , Monash University, Victoria	13:55 – 14:25	Preventive strategies: Immunisation, prophylaxis and risk mitigation <b>Dr Sarah Chu</b> The Butterfly Clinic, Queensland		The legalities <b>Dr Jenny Sisson</b> , Travel Doctor TMVC, Western Australia
14:30 – 15:00	Eliminating viral hepatitis: challenges and progress <b>Prof Ben Cowie</b> , Doherty Institute, Victoria	14:25 – 15:00	Translating knowledge into practice: case studies and clinical application <b>Mrs Lisa Scotland</b> , Nurse Specialist, WWCLINIC on Grey, New Zealand		YF vaccine precautions, contraindications and adverse events <b>Prof Marc Shaw</b> , Worldwise Travellers Health, New Zealand

## FRIDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2025 - Sofitel Melbourne on Collins

15:00 – 15:30 Sofi's Lounge	<b>AFTERNOON TEA &amp; POSTER VIEWING</b>				
15:30 – 16:45 Brisbane Room	<b>SYMPOSIUM 2: DENGUE DECODED: FROM GLOBAL TRENDS TO PRACTICAL INSIGHTS</b>  <b>Chairs:</b> Dr Deb Mills, Dr Deb the Travel Doctor, Queensland & Dr Michael Tong, General Practitioner, Northern Territory	15:30 – 16:45 Sydney Room	<b>WORKSHOP 5: DESTINATION SOUTH AMERICA</b>  <b>Facilitator:</b> Ms Caroline Nash, Aspen Medical, Australian Capital Territory	15:30 – 17:00 Perth Room	<b>WORKSHOP 4: YELLOW FEVER (cont.)</b>  <b>Facilitators:</b> Dr Jennifer Sisson, Travel Doctor TMVC, Western Australia
15:30 – 16:00	Changing epidemiology and control of dengue <b>A/Prof Katie Anders</b> , Monash University, Victoria		Case studies on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Older traveller to a yellow fever endemic area</li> <li>Young backpacker on an extended overland journey (including high altitude)</li> </ul>		Case studies on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Older travellers</li> <li>The immunocompromised</li> <li>Pregnancy, breastfeeding and infants</li> </ul>
16:00 – 16:30	Clinical diagnosis and management of dengue <b>A/Prof Irani Thevarajan</b> , Doherty Institute, Victoria		Panel discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Dr Sonny Lau</b>, The Travel Doctor TMVC, Victoria</li> <li><b>Dr Sarah Chu</b>, The Butterfly Clinic, Queensland</li> <li><b>Ms Catherine Keil</b>, Travel Health Practitioner, South Australia</li> <li><b>Ms Tonia Buzzolini</b>, Travelvax, Queensland</li> </ul>		Short quiz Closing remarks
16:30 – 16:45	Dengue vaccines: use in travellers <b>Dr Sarah McGuinness</b> , Monash University, Victoria				
16:45 – 17:30 Brisbane Room	<b>CLOSING SESSION</b> Chairs: <b>Prof Richard Franklin</b> , James Cook University, Queensland & ACTM President & <b>Prof Colleen Lau</b> , University of Queensland, Queensland				
16:45 – 17:00	<b>MEET THE SPONSORS</b>				
17:00 – 17:30	<b>2025 Prof Peter Leggat AM Oration</b> New frontiers: space travel and aerospace medicine <b>Prof David Hilmers</b> , Former NASA Astronaut, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, United States of America				
17:30 – 19:00 Sofi's Lounge	<b>Welcome Drinks and Canapes (all delegates welcome)</b>				

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**References:**

1. Adacel PI 24 May 2024
2. Avaxim PI 19 May 2025
3. Typhim Vi 6 October 2023

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# Tropical Public Health Symposium

sponsored by QIMR Berghofer



QIMR Berghofer is sponsoring a Symposium on Tropical Public Health. The Symposium will cover topics that are relevant to understanding the diverse factors influencing health outcomes across different populations. The topics may address specific diseases or conditions and adopt scientific as well as holistic approaches that take into consideration a wide range of influences on health and well-being. The Symposium will gather speakers and authorities from different research institutions across Australia, with the overall aim to develop targeted interventions and policies that can effectively improve health outcomes and reduce disparities among various population groups.

## QIMR Berghofer Tropical Public Health Symposium

Time	Activity	Presenter	Presentation Title
9:00 - 9:10	Introduction	Prof Darren Gray	
9:19 - 9:25	Presentation	Callum Lowe (ANU)	Investigating environmental enteric dysfunction and stunting among infants in rural Central Java, Indonesia
9:25 - 9:40	Presentation	Emmanuel Tablin (QIMRB)	Development of point-of-care diagnostics for schistosomiasis in the Philippines
9:40 - 9:55	Presentation	Dr Behzad Kiani (UQ)	Developing a spatial vulnerability index for infectious diseases of poverty in the Caribbean region
9:55 - 10:10	Presentation	Dr Deepani Fernando (QIMRB)	A novel, single-dose topical treatment for scabies
10:10 - 10:25	Presentation	Prof Andreas Kupz (JCU)	Advancing the development of an improved vaccine for tuberculosis
10:25 - 10:30	Wrap-up	Prof Darren Gray/QIMR	

## SATURDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2025 - Sofitel Melbourne on Collins

08:00 – 08:50 Grand Ballroom Foyer	<b>REGISTRATION</b> Once registered, arrival coffee and tea will be available in Sofi's Lounge, an opportunity to meet the sponsors and network with other delegates. Speaker Presentations can be checked with the AV team at the registration desk.				
08:50 – 09:00 Brisbane Room	<b>OPENING SESSION TRAVEL MEDICINE</b> Welcome: Prof Richard Franklin, James Cook University, Queensland & ACTM President				
09:00 – 10:30 Brisbane Room	<b>SYMPOSIUM 3: VACCINE DELIVERY, ERRORS AND ADVERSE EVENTS</b>  Chairs: A/Prof Luis Furuya Kanamori, University of Queensland, Queensland & Ms Caroline Nash, Aspen Medical, Australian Capital Territory	09:00 – 10:30 Sydney Room	<b>FREE COMMUNICATIONS 1: SURVEILLANCE AND INTEGRATED PUBLIC HEALTH APPROACHES</b>  Chairs: Dr Patricia Graves, James Cook University, Queensland	9:00 – 10:30 Perth Room	<b>WORKSHOP 6: WILDERNESS MEDICINE COMPETENCIES</b>  Facilitators: Prof Marc Shaw, Worldwide Travellers Health & Vaccination Centre, New Zealand & Prof Richard Franklin, James Cook University, Queensland
09:00 – 09:30	To err is human: Lessons from the NaTHNaC advice line <b>Dr Dipti Patel</b> , NaTHNaC, United Kingdom	09:00 – 10:15	The first Dengue outbreak in a <i>Wolbachia</i> established setting <b>Dr Kate Murton</b> , Townsville Public Health Unit, Queensland  Can serosurveillance provide early warning of vaccine preventable disease outbreaks: measles seroprevalence before and after a national outbreak in Samoa <b>Dr Harriet Lawford</b> , The University of Queensland, Queensland  Combining forces: Integrating infectious disease and NCD surveillance in Niue's national STEPS survey <b>Dr Adam Craig</b> , The University of Queensland, Queensland		This interactive workshop will explore essential and extended competencies for providing medical care in diverse and resource-poor wilderness environments, with a focus on the Australian/New Zealand context.
09:30 – 09:50	From reporting to action: Strengthening vaccine adverse event surveillance <b>A/Prof Hazel Clothier</b> , Murdoch Children's Research Institute and Global Vaccine Data Network, Victoria				
09:50 – 10:10	What can providers do to improve vaccine uptake <b>Dr Jessica Kaufman</b> , Murdoch Children's Research Institute, Victoria				



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			<p>Integrated serosurveillance and spatial epidemiology of vaccine preventable diseases and lymphatic filariasis in Samoa, 2018-2019</p> <p><b>Ms Selina Ward</b>, The University of Queensland, Queensland</p> <p>Insights from integrated serosurveillance for measles, rubella, tetanus, and diphtheria in Vanuatu</p> <p><b>Dr Mohamad Assoum</b>, University of New South Wales, New South Wales</p>		
10:10 – 10:30	Setting up for success: Best practices to prevent vaccine errors <b>Ms Catherine Keil</b> , Nurse Practitioner, Travel Health Practitioner, South Australia	10:15 – 10:30	Questions and Discussion		



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Cholera	<b>VAXCHORA®</b> [ <i>Vibrio cholerae</i> (live, attenuated)]2	For active immunisation against disease caused by <i>Vibrio cholerae</i> serogroup O1	2 years +	Single Dose; Oral Powder for Suspension
Japanese encephalitis	<b>Imojev®</b> Japanese encephalitis virus (live, attenuated)]3	For prophylaxis of Japanese encephalitis caused by the Japanese encephalitis virus	9 months +	Single Dose; Subcutaneous Injection
Malaria	<b>Kodatef®</b> (tafenoquine as succinate)4	For the prevention of <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> & <i>P. vivax</i> malaria for up to 6 months of continuous dosing	18 years +	- Pre-Travel: 1 dose on days 1, 2 & 3 - During Travel: 1 dose per week, 7 days from previous dose - Post-Travel: 1 dose, 7 days from previous dose (One dose = 2x100mg tablets)

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REFERENCES: 1. Biocelect Pty Ltd, 2024, Australian Product Information, Vivotif® - Vivotif Oral (Salmonella typhi) Capsule. 2. Biocelect Pty Ltd, 2023, Australian Product Information, Vaxchora® Oral Cholera Vaccine (live, attenuated). 3. Biocelect Pty Ltd, 2023, Australian Product Information, Imojev® [Japanese encephalitis virus (live, attenuated)]. 4. Biocelect Pty Ltd, 2022, Australian Product Information, Kodatef® (tafenoquine as succinate). Distributed by Biocelect Pty Ltd. ABN 88 168 092 171. Level 29, 66 Goulburn Street NSW 2000, Australia. [www.biocelect.com](https://www.biocelect.com). 1300 907 411. BCD47\_General\_AU Date of Preparation: Version 1, 27th August 2025, © 2025 Biocelect

## SATURDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2025 - Sofitel Melbourne on Collins

10:30 – 11:00 Sofi's Lounge	MORNING TEA & POSTER VIEWING				
11:00 – 12:30 Brisbane Room	<b>PANEL 2: BEYOND THE BUZZ: NAVIGATING MEDICINES, DRUGS AND ALCOHOL ABROAD</b>  Moderator: <b>Prof Kate Seear</b> , Deakin University, Victoria	11:00 – 12:30 Sydney Room	<b>FREE COMMUNICATIONS 2: TRAVEL-RELATED AND VECTOR-BORNE DISEASES</b>  Chairs: <b>Prof Emma McBryde</b> , James Cook University, Queensland & <b>A/Prof Hazel Clothier</b> , Murdoch Children's Research Institute, Victoria	11:00 – 12:30 Perth Room	<b>WORKSHOP 7: ONE HEALTH JAPANESE ENCEPHALITIS</b>  Chair: <b>Prof Darren Gray</b> , QIMR Berghofer, Queensland
11:00 – 12:30	<b>Panel Discussion</b> <b>Panellists:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dr Deb Mills</b>, Dr Deb the Travel Doctor, Queensland</li> <li>• <b>Prof Richard Franklin</b>, James Cook University, Queensland</li> <li>• <b>Dr Paul MacCartney</b>, Safer Care Victoria, Victoria</li> <li>• <b>Dr Irene Lai</b>, International SOS, Victoria</li> </ul>	11:00 – 12:00	The importance of measles vaccination prior to travel <b>Ms Sophie Wilson</b> , Victorian Department of Health, Victoria	11:00 – 11:20	Integrating entomological insights into Japanese encephalitis risk assessment and management <b>Dr Leon Hugo</b> , QIMR Berghofer, Queensland
			Once bitten, twice shy: an unusual case of dual malaria infection with <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> and <i>Plasmodium ovale</i> <b>Dr Tara Grayson</b> , Barwon Health, Victoria	11:20 – 11:40	Mapping Japanese encephalitis virus suitability across Australia's ecological landscape <b>Dr Eloise Skinner</b> , The University of Queensland, Queensland
			Comparison between initial clinical and laboratory profiles between dengue fever and dengue haemorrhagic fever in patients presented at a university hospital in suburban Bangkok: A ten-year analysis <b>Mr Thanabadee Kulveeraaree</b> , Srinakharinwirot University, Thailand	11:40 – 12:00	From exotic travel risk to domestic reality: Are we ready for endemic JEV? Shifting the clinical mindset from imported disease to local vigilance <b>A/Prof Michael Nissen</b> , The University of Queensland & Queensland Health, Queensland

		<p>Impact of temperature on dengue virus transmission by <i>Aedes aegypti</i> in New Caledonia <b>Ms Méryl Delrieu</b>, Institut Pasteur de Novella-Caledonie, Noumea, New-Caledonia</p> <p>Mapping arboviral risk in Brazil: Targeting high-risk tourist areas for dengue, chikungunya, and yellow fever <b>Dr Sebastian Vernal Carranza</b>, University of Queensland, Queensland</p>	12:00 – 12:20	One Health approach to JEV genomics in Australia <b>Dr David Williams</b> , CSIRO Australian Animal Health Laboratory, Victoria
	12:00 – 12:30	Questions and Discussion	12:20 – 12:30	Questions and Discussion



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1 Australian Bureau of Statistics, Resident Returns, Short-term (less than one year), June 2024-May 2025.

**Top 4 travel destinations for Australians<sup>1</sup>**

32% SE Asia	17% Oceania	15% Europe	14% NE Asia
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Many of which don't widely recognise the GF diet



## SATURDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2025 - Sofitel Melbourne on Collins

12:30 – 13:30 Sofi's Lounge	<b>LUNCH &amp; POSTER VIEWING</b>	12:45 – 13:30 Victoria Suites Meet at TM1	<b>POSTER TOUR 1: Travel Medicine and Migration</b> Tour Leader: Dr Steve Muhi, University of Melbourne, Victoria		
13:30 – 15:00 Brisbane Room	<b>SYMPOSIUM 4: SPECIAL TRAVELLER POPULATIONS</b>  Chairs: Dr Sarah Chu, The Butterfly Clinic, Queensland & Ms Danielle Peel, Travel Clinics Australia, New South Wales	13:30 – 15:00 Sydney Room	<b>WORKSHOP 8: STRONGYLOIDIASES: ENDING THE NEGLECT</b> Facilitator: Prof Richard Bradbury, James Cook University, Queensland	13:30 – 15:00 Perth Room	<b>WORKSHOP 9: INTRODUCTION TO INFECTIOUS DISEASE MAPPING</b>  Facilitators: Dr Behzah Kiani, The University of Queensland, Queensland & A/Prof Benn Sartorius, The University of Queensland, Queensland
13:30 – 14:00	The occupational traveller: should they stay or go? Dr Dipti Patel, NaTHNaC, United Kingdom	13:30 – 13:50	Update on strongyloidiasis for clinicians Dr Lauren McShane, Royal Darwin Hospital, Northern Territory	13:30 – 14:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overview of objectives</li> <li>Why spatial thinking matters in infectious disease context</li> <li>Point vs areal data</li> <li>Spatial data and attribute table</li> <li>Spatial data formats (Shapefile, Geo-package, etc.)</li> <li>Geographic vs projected coordinate systems (including examples from Fiji and repositioning Australia at the centre of a world map Layers, maps, and layouts</li> </ul>
14:00 – 14:30	The immunocompromised traveller Prof Priscilla Rupali, Christian Medical College (CMC), Vellore, India	13:50 – 14:40	Strongyloidiasis primary care control program Dr Wendy Page, Miwatj Health Aboriginal Corporation, Northern Territory  Strongyloides – ending the neglect Dr Suzy Ossipow & Dr Fasil Shiferaw, QIMR Berghofer, Brisbane	14:00 – 14:20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concepts crash course</li> <li>Map types: choropleth, buffer, density, arrow maps</li> <li>Application of each map in infectious disease and travel medicine contexts</li> </ul>



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			<p>Strongyloides – environmental control <b>Professor Kirstin Ross</b>, Flinders University, South Australia</p> <p>Strongyloides PCR – faecal, or fickle? <b>Dr Catherine Gordon</b>, QIMR Berghofer, Queensland</p> <p>Strongyloides fuelleborni in PNG <b>Dr Huan Zhao</b>, The University of Adelaide, South Australia</p>		
14:30 – 15:00	The paediatric traveller <b>A/Prof Mike Starr</b> , Royal Children’s Hospital, Victoria	14:40 – 15:00	<b>Panel Discussion</b>	14:20 – 15:00	Hands-on 1: Area-based mapping <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Load areal data + disease rates</li><li>• Create a choropleth of crude incidence</li><li>• Apply Empirical Bayes smoothing</li></ul>



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## SATURDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2025 - Sofitel Melbourne on Collins


15:00 – 15:30 Sofi's Lounge	AFTERNOON TEA & POSTER VIEWING				
15:30 – 17:00 Brisbane Room	<b>PANEL 3: CASE STUDIES: PREPARING FOR EXTREME ENVIRONMENTS</b>  <b>Moderator:</b> Prof Nick Zwar, Bond University, Queensland	15:30 – 17:00 Sydney Room	<b>FREE COMMUNICATIONS 3: NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES</b> <b>Chairs:</b> Prof Susana Vaz Nery, University of NSW, New South Wales & Dr Adam Craig, University of Queensland, Queensland	15:30 – 17:00 Perth Room	<b>WORKSHOP 9: INTRODUCTION TO INFECTIOUS DISEASE MAPPING (cont.)</b> <b>Facilitators:</b> Dr Behzah Kiani, The University of Queensland, Queensland & A/Prof Benn Sartorius, The University of Queensland, Queensland
15:30 – 16:30	<b>Panellists:</b> Sporting events & extreme heat <b>A/Prof Carolyn Broderick</b> , The University of Sydney, New South Wales  High altitude & wilderness expeditions <b>Dr Jenny Visser</b> , University of Otago, New Zealand  Space, disaster relief <b>Prof David Hilmers</b> , Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, United States of America	15:30 – 16:45	Challenges and opportunities for post-validation surveillance of lymphatic filariasis in Tonga, 2024: a qualitative study <b>Ms Holly Jian</b> , The University of Queensland, Queensland  Comparing human and vector-based indicators of lymphatic filariasis transmission in Samoa: results from 2023–2024 <b>Dr Helen Mayfield</b> , The University of Queensland, Queensland	15:30 – 16:30	Hands-on 2: Point-based mapping <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Load point-level case data</li> <li>Create heatmaps (kernel density)</li> <li>Generate buffer maps (e.g., 1km around clinics)</li> <li>Create arrow maps (travel maps)</li> </ul>
			Eye spy with my little eye: has Australia eliminated trachoma as a public health problem? <b>Ms Alison Jaworski</b> , Kirby Institute, New South Wales	16:30 – 16:45	Common pitfalls Small numbers, ecological fallacy, MAUP
				16:45 – 17:00	Wrap-up & what's next <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recap of key terms &amp; tools</li> <li>List of resources (links to tutorials, sample data, key literature)</li> <li>Map quiz!</li> </ul>

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			<p>Opening a can of worms: A qualitative study on the feasibility and acceptability of One Health approaches to Soil-Transmitted Helminthiases (STHs) in rural Northern Australia <b>Ms Anna Duan</b>, James Cook University, Queensland</p> <p>Geostatistical analysis of national soil-transmitted helminth surveys in Timor-Leste 2012-2021 <b>Dr Adam Bartlett</b>, Kirby Institute, New South Wales</p>		
16:30 – 17:00	Questions and Discussion	16:45 – 17:00	Questions and Discussion		
17:00 – 18:00 Brisbane & Sydney Rooms	<b>CLOSING SESSION</b> Chair: Dr Sarah McGuinness, Monash University, Victoria & ACTM Vice-President & Scientific Program Chair				
17:00 – 17:30	<b>2025 Robert Steffen Oration</b> The changing face of travel medicine: new frontiers in practice, communication and technology <b>Dr Dipti Patel</b> , NaTHNaC, United Kingdom				
17:30 – 18:00 Brisbane & Sydney Rooms	<b>ACTM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (ACTM Members only, In person and Zoom)</b>				
From 19:00 Garden State Hotel	<b>NETWORKING DINNER FOR EARLY CAREER RESEARCHERS AND STUDENTS</b> Organiser: Ms Selina Ward, The University of Queensland, Brisbane				

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## SUNDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2025 – Sofitel Melbourne on Collins

08:30 – 09:00 Grand Ballroom Foyer	<b>REGISTRATION</b> Arrival coffee and tea will be available in Sofi's Lounge, an opportunity to meet the sponsors and network with other delegates. Speaker Presentations can be checked with the AV team at the registration desk.			
09:00 – 10:30 Brisbane & Sydney Rooms	<b>'WISEWords' Talks</b> Chair: <b>Prof Marc Shaw</b> , Worldwide Travellers Health, New Zealand	<b>POSTER TOURS</b> (please see page 19 for further information on poster tours)		09:00 – 10:30 Perth Room <b>TROPICAL PUBLIC HEALTH SYMPOSIUM</b> Chair: <b>Prof Darren Gray</b> , QIMR Berghofer, Brisbane  Sponsored by:  <b>QIMR Berghofer</b>
	Oropouche virus disease – a travel medicine perspective <b>Dr Dipti Patel</b> , NaTHNaC, United Kingdom  Clinical pearls from China's travel clinic: Case vignettes from returned travellers <b>Dr Wang Xinyu</b> , Fudan University, China  ACTM Travel Medicine Guidelines <b>Dr Jennifer Sisson</b> , Travel Doctor TMVC, Western Australia  Measles vaccine limbo: how low should we go? <b>Dr Myra Hardy</b> , Royal Children's Hospital, Victoria  Flavivirus Serology: Science or Witchcraft? <b>Dr David Williams</b> , CSIRO Australian Animal Health Laboratory, Victoria  To test or not to test: role of RDTs in travel medicine <b>A/Prof Michael Nissen</b> , University of Queensland, Queensland	09:00 – 09:40 Meet at NTD1 Sofi's Lounge  09:50 – 10:30 Meet at DS1 Sofi's Lounge	<b>POSTER TOUR 2: Neglected Tropical Diseases</b>  Tour leader: <b>Prof Leanne Robinson</b> , Burnet Institute, Victoria  <b>POSTER TOUR 3: Diagnostics &amp; Surveillance Tools</b>  Tour leader: <b>Prof Richard Bradbury</b> , James Cook University, Queensland	The Symposium will explore the underlying determinant of poverty and the impact on vulnerable populations of tropical diseases, using examples from scabies, soil-transmitted helminthiasis, schistosomiasis, and TB vaccine trials. The Symposium includes speakers from research institutions across Australia, with the overall aim to adopt scientific as well as holistic approaches that take into consideration a wide range of influences on health and well-being.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr Callum Lowe</b>, Australian National University, Australian Capital Territory</li> <li>• <b>Mr Emmanuel Tabilin</b>, QIMR Berghofer, Queensland</li> <li>• <b>Dr Behzad Kiani</b>, The University of Queensland, Queensland</li> <li>• <b>Dr Deepani Fernando</b>, QIMR Berghofer, Queensland</li> <li>• <b>Prof Andreas Kupz</b>, James Cook University, Queensland</li> </ul>
10:30 – 11:00 Sofi's Lounge	<b>MORNING TEA &amp; POSTER VIEWING</b>			



## SUNDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2025 – Sofitel Melbourne on Collins

11:00 – 12:00 Brisbane & Sydney Rooms	<b>SYMPOSIUM 5: SPOTLIGHT ON RETURNING TRAVELLERS: INSIGHTS ON EPIDEMIOLOGY AND DIAGNOSIS</b>  <b>Chairs:</b> Dr Jennifer Sisson, Travel Doctor TMVC, Western Australia & Dr John Byron, Mornington Health Centre, New Zealand	11:00 – 11:45 Sofi's Lounge Meet at MA1	<b>POSTER TOUR 4: Modelling &amp; Analytical Methods</b> Tour leader: A/Prof Benn Sartorius, University of Queensland, Queensland
11:00 – 11:30	Update on Mpox: latest developments and insights <b>Dr Maxwell Braddick</b> , Doherty Institute, Victoria		
11:30 – 12:00	Fever in returned traveller: changing epidemiology & diagnosis <b>Dr Priscilla Rupali</b> , Christian Medical College (CMC), Vellore, India		
12:00 – 13:00 Brisbane & Sydney Rooms	<b>CONFERENCE WRAP UP AND PRESENTATIONS</b> <b>Chair:</b> Dr Sarah McGuinness, Monash University, Victoria & ACTM Vice-President & Scientific Program Chair		
12:00 – 12:40	<b>Travel and Tropical Medicine Quiz</b> <b>Host:</b> Dr Steve Muhi, University of Melbourne, Victoria		
12:40 – 12:50	<b>Announcement of Prize Winners of Poster Presentations</b> (please see poster presentations page for further information)		
12:50 – 13:00	<b>CLOSING REMARKS</b> <b>Dr Sarah McGuinness</b> , Monash University, Victoria & ACTM Vice-President & Scientific Program Chair <b>Prof Richard Franklin</b> , James Cook University, Queensland & ACTM President		

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The Travel Medicine Clinical Guidelines Australia and New Zealand have been created to provide guidance to health care providers on preparing travellers medically for international travel

[www.travelmedicineguidelinesanz.org/](http://www.travelmedicineguidelinesanz.org/)

# POSTER PRESENTATIONS

**Poster display:** All posters will be displayed during the whole conference.

**Poster tours:** Some posters have been selected for poster tours, which will be led by an international expert in the field. At each poster, there will be a 3-minute presentation followed by a 5-minute discussion. All welcome.

#	Poster Tour Topics	Tour Leaders	Date and Time	Meet at	Location
1	Travel medicine & migration	Dr Steve Muhi	Saturday, 12:45-1:30pm (Bring your lunch)	TM1	Victoria Suites
2	Neglected tropical diseases	Prof Leanne Robinson	Sunday, 09:00-09:40am	NTD1	Sofi's Lounge
3	Diagnostics & surveillance tools	Prof Richard Bradbury	Sunday, 09:50-10:30am	DS1	Sofi's Lounge
4	Modelling & analytical methods	A/Prof Benn Sartorius	Sunday, 11:00-11:45am	MA1	Sofi's Lounge

Poster Presentations sponsored by



Category	Poster ID	Presenter	Title	Poster Tour #
Travel medicine & migration	TM1	Wondimeneh Shiferaw	Risky Encounters Abroad: Attitude and Behaviour Towards Sexually Transmissible Infections Among Australian Travellers	1
Travel medicine & migration	TM2	Liuyi Chen-Cao	Forced Migration and Mortality: Health Disparities Among Venezuelan Migrants in Peru and Colombia from 2017 to 2021	1
Travel medicine & migration	TM5	Xinyu Wang	Spectrum of Illness Among Returning International Travellers: Insights from a Travel Clinic in China	1
Travel medicine & migration	TM6	Irene Lai	Risks, Regulations and Reality: The Three Rs of Travel Health – Sorting Fact from Fiction to Make Informed Decisions	1
Neglected tropical diseases	NTD1	Huan Zhao	Human Infections with Zoonotic Soil Transmitted Helminths, Gabon, Central Africa	2
Neglected tropical diseases	NTD2	Praosirin Tungkiatsilp	Seasonal and Demographic Trends of Dengue in Suburban Central Thailand during 2014 to 2023: A Ten-Year Retrospective Review at a University Hospital	2
Neglected tropical diseases	NTD3	Catherine Gordon	Rare, But Real: Schistosomiasis in Myanmar	2

The Australasian College of Tropical Medicine's, Research Committee will judge the Poster Presentations with winners to be announced on Sunday.

<b>Best Oral Presentation</b>	First Place \$300	100% discount for publication in TMID
<b>Best Oral Presentation</b>	Second Place \$200	100% discount for publication in TMID
<b>Best Poster (Early Career Researcher)</b>	\$250	50% discount for publication in TMID
<b>Best Poster (Student)</b>	\$250	50% discount for publication in TMID

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# POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Category	Poster ID	Presenter	Title	Poster Tour #
Neglected tropical diseases	NTD4	Adam Bartlett	Yaws Truly: The Role of Active and Passive Surveillance Systems for Yaws Elimination in Vanuatu	2
Neglected tropical diseases	NTD5	Patsy A. Zendejas-Heredia	High Prevalence of Hookworms and Strongyloides stercoralis in School-Age Children and in Cohabiting Dogs in Cambodia Despite Long-Term Bi-Annual Mass Drug Administration: A One Health Approach Study	2
Diagnostics & surveillance tools	DS1	Mohamad Assoum	Integrated Serosurveillance as a Tool for Monitoring of Neglected Tropical Disease in Vanuatu	3
Diagnostics & surveillance tools	DS2	Shannon M Hedtke	Using Genomics to Identify Transmission Patterns of Wuchereria bancrofti, the Parasite that Causes Lymphatic Filariasis in Samoa	3
Diagnostics & surveillance tools	DS3	Harriet Lawford	Utility of Lymphatic Filariasis Antibody Serosurveillance for Post-Validation Surveillance in Tonga	3
Diagnostics & surveillance tools	DS4	Paolo Bareng	Assessing the Prevalence of Hookworm Species and Strongyloides spp. in Vanuatu: The Role of Molecular Diagnostics	3
Diagnostics & surveillance tools	DS5	Emmanuel John Tabilin	Point-of-Care Diagnostics (POCs) Development for Schistosomiasis in the Philippines	3
Modelling & analytical methods	MA1	Liuyi Chen-Cao	Modelling Environmental and Climatic-sensitive Infectious Syndromes in the Pacific Region (2011–2020)	4
Modelling & analytical methods	MA2	Gabriel Parker	A Method to Estimate Population Immunity Levels	4
Modelling & analytical methods	MA3	Helen Mayfield	Geostatistical Modelling of Lymphatic Filariasis in Samoa Using Molecular Xenomonitoring and Human Antigen Data	4
Modelling & analytical methods	MA4	Mackrina Winslow	A Transmission Model for Understanding Strongyloides stercoralis Transmission Dynamics among Humans, Dogs, and the Environment	4
Modelling & analytical methods	MA5	Mohabeer Teeluck	From Evidence to Action: Modelling the impact of a changing climate on the re-emergence of mosquito borne diseases in vulnerable small island nations with focus on Mauritius	4
Travel medicine and migration	TM8	Aakash Sherpali	“Montezuma’s Revenge” with Neurological Disorder: A Nightmare in Remote Location of Nepal	
Travel medicine and migration	TM9	Xian Zhou	Travellers Must Be Alert to the Risks of Severe Fever with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome Virus (SFTSV)	
Neglected tropical diseases	NTD6	Atchara Phumee	Insecticide resistance status of sand fly vectors of leishmaniasis in Na Thawi District, Songkhla, Southern Thailand	
Neglected tropical diseases	NTD7	Patsy A. Zendejas-Heredia	Patent Infections by zoonotic Trichostrongylus nematodes in children and adults from Vietnam	



# POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Category	Poster ID	Presenter	Title	Poster Tour #
Neglected tropical diseases	NTD8	Vito Colella	Emergence of Novel Zoonotic Filarial Species in Humans and Dogs: Implications for Post-Validation Surveillance in the Asia-Pacific	
Neglected tropical diseases	NTD9	Fan Yu	Increasing number of Sapovirus outbreaks in Beijing (2014-2021): Dominance of Genotypes GI.3 and GI.2.	
Neglected tropical diseases	NTD10	Krittaya Sodthip	Serological and Molecular Screening of Leptospira Infection in Patients with Acute Febrile Illness After Flash Flood Exposure in Southern Thailand	
Neglected tropical diseases	NTD11	Millicent Opoku	Genome assembly of Simulium damnosum, a vector of Onchocerciasis in Ghana	
Neglected tropical diseases	NTD12	Beatris Mario Martin	Impact of extreme weather events on leptospirosis burden in the Caribbean region	
Neglected tropical diseases	NTD13	Fasil Shiferaw	Spatial distribution and socio-ecological factors of strongyloidiasis in Australia	
Neglected tropical diseases	NTD14	Andjela Arandjelovic	A critical review and update of the epidemiology, transmission and prevention of Buruli Ulcer in Australia.	
Diagnostics and surveillance tools	DS6	Anna Duan	Diagnostic Validation of Seegene GI Helminth Allplex Assay in a High Endemicity Population	
Diagnostics and surveillance tools	DS7	Abhishek Mewara	Multi-locus sequence typing of Trichomonas vaginalis isolates from North India	
Modelling & analytical methods	MA6	Kim Dianne Ligue-Sabio	Modelling African Swine Fever Epidemiology: A Systematic Review of Statistical, Mechanistic, and Machine Learning Approaches	
Modelling & analytical methods	MA7	Jutathip Jeeramanaphong	Molecular Docking-Guided Identification of Quercetin and Kaempferol Glycosides as Adjuncts to Vaccine Strategies Against Acinetobacter baumannii	
Modelling & analytical methods	MA8	Claire Brereton	Lymphatic Filariasis resurgence and intervention options in a Pacific Island country: a predictive model for policy makers	
Infectious diseases	ID1	Sirijan Santajit	Adjunct Antimicrobial Potential of Paederia foetida Linn. Leaf Extract: In Vitro–In Silico Insights Against Staphylococcus aureus Infections"	
Infectious diseases	ID2	Gabriel Parker	Sunshine Coast Improving Immunisation Project (SCIIP) – Barriers to vaccination	
Infectious diseases	ID3	Gabriel Parker	Urban Gentrification and Infectious Diseases: An interdisciplinary narrative	
Infectious diseases	ID4	Anna Duan	From Barnyards to B-Cells: A review of the evidence linking Coxiella burnetii to haematological malignancy risk	



## THE AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF TROPICAL MEDICINE



ACTM is the leading organisation  
in the Australasian region representing  
**Tropical & Travel  
Medicine Professionals**

The College promotes the highest ethical and professional standards through education and information. It has both regional and global interests with more than 600 members coming from about 30 countries around the World and maintains links to three international organisations working in tropical medicine.

### Aims/Vision

The College is committed to the development of tropical medicine and is working with professionals to help manage the global burden of tropical disease and injury through networking, research and development.

### Annual Conference

ACTM's annual conference is renowned for featuring local and international speakers, highlighting research and fostering global collaboration in tropical and travel medicine.



### SAVE THE DATE FOR SCTMC 2026

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in Brisbane



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- Encourage continuing education and the exchange of knowledge in tropical medicine and geographic medicine;
- Collaborate with other organisations in conducting activities of mutual concern, interest and direction in tropical medicine;
- Promote research in tropical medicine and geographic medicine;
- Strive for professionalism and competence among its members and those specialising in and entering into the field of tropical medicine; and
- Maintain a historical collection of items relevant to the development of tropical medicine in Australia and New Zealand.



**Connection**



**Education**



**Promotion**



**Collaboration**



### MEMBERSHIP

ACTM membership provides members with a variety of benefits ranging from complimentary faculty memberships to discounted products, services and events. To apply for membership, please scan the QR Code.

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