



PROGRAMME

MEDICINAL CANNABIS RESEARCH, REGULATION AND EDUCATION

2021 VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM HOSTED BY
NICM HEALTH RESEARCH INSTITUTE

DATE: Thursday 12 August 2021

CHAIR: Professor Jerome Sarris, NICM Health Research Institute, Western Sydney University

PROGRAMME

PROGRAMME CURRENT AS AT 11 AUGUST 2021. MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
PROGRAMME TIMEZONE IS IN AUSTRALIAN EASTERN STANDARD TIME (AEST).

9.30am	Welcome address	Professor Dennis Chang Director, NICM Health Research Institute, Western Sydney University.
9.40am	Housekeeping	Professor Jerome Sarris Professor of Integrative Mental Health, NICM Health Research Institute, Western Sydney University.
9.45am	KEYNOTE ADDRESS <i>Medicinal cannabis in Australia – where have we come from and where are we going?</i>	Dr Richard Di Natale Former Federal Senator for Victoria and Former Leader of the Australian Greens; Chair of Medicinal Cannabis Health Advisory Council, Medicinal Cannabis Industry Association; Public Health Advisor in Community Health.
10.00am	KEYNOTE ADDRESS <i>Cannabis safety updates; impairment, opioids and patient complexities</i>	Adjunct Professor Caroline MacCallum Internal Medicine Specialist, Clinical Instructor, Department of Medicine, and Adjunct Professor Faculty Pharmaceutical Sciences and Associate Member Division of Palliative Care, University of British Columbia.
10.20am	Q&A	
10.30am	TGA and ODC update	Adjunct Professor John Skerrett Deputy Secretary, Health Products Regulation Group, Department of Health, Australian Government.
10.50am	Q&A	
11.00am	10-minute break	



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11.10am *First preclinical insights into the therapeutic potential of CBD for frontotemporal dementia, motor neuron disease, and drug addiction*

Advancing our understanding of how full-spectrum CBD products work

Cannabidiol improves neurites and prolongs lifespan in cell and C. elegans Aβ models relevant to Alzheimer's disease

Professor Tim Karl

Professor of Behavioural Neuroscience, School of Medicine, Western Sydney University.

Associate Professor Jonathon Arnold

Deputy Academic Director of Preclinical Research, The Lambert Initiative for Cannabinoid Therapeutics, Brain and Mind Centre, The University of Sydney.

Professor Xu-Feng Huang

NHMRC Research Leadership Fellow, Illawarra Health and Medical Research Institute, School of Medicine, University of Wollongong, and Australian Centre for Cannabinoid Clinical and Research Excellence.

12.10pm Joint Q&A

12.25pm *Cannabis sativa: A budding therapy for dementia*

Associate Professor Genevieve Steiner

Research Director, NICM Health Research Institute, Western Sydney University.

12.45pm 35-minute lunch break

1.20pm *Lambert Initiative: A clinical research update*

The NSW CARE study update: Observational data to guide cannabis medicines use in the real world

Professor Iain McGregor

Academic Director, The Lambert Initiative for Cannabinoid Therapeutics, Brain and Mind Centre, The University of Sydney.

Professor Jennifer Martin

Chair of Clinical Pharmacology and Head of Medicine, School of Medicine and Public Health, The University of Newcastle; and Director, Australian Centre for Cannabinoid Clinical and Research Excellence.

2.00pm Joint Q&A



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2.15pm *Cannabis and driving*

*CBD for early-stage dementia: A
clinical trial protocol*

*Chronic 5 mg/kg cannabidiol
treatment reverses cognitive
deficits in a mouse model of
Alzheimer's disease*

*Medicinal cannabis for
endometriosis (EndoCann): The
journey so far*

*The pharmacological characteristics
of phytocannabinoid and
synthetic cannabinoids on T-type
calcium channels in vitro*

Dr Thomas Arkell

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Centre for Human
Psychopharmacology, Swinburne University of Technology.

Dr Jessica Mills

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Australian Centre for
Cannabinoid Clinical and Research Excellence; and School of
Psychology and Illawarra Health and Medical Research
Institute, University of Wollongong.

Madilyn Coles

PhD Candidate, School of Medicine, Western Sydney
University.

Justin Sinclair

PhD Candidate, NICM Health Research Institute, Western
Sydney University.

Somayeh Mirlohi

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, The Florey Institute of
Neuroscience and Mental Health, University of Melbourne.

2.40pm Joint Q&A

2.55pm 5-minute break

3.00pm **PANEL DISCUSSION**

*Cannabis safety, drug driving and
WHS implications*

Moderated by

Professor Jerome Sarris

Fiona Patten, MP

Member for Northern Metropolitan Region in the Victorian
Parliament's Legislative Council and Federal Leader of the
Reason Party.

Adjunct Professor Daniel Perkins

Co-Director, Psychae Institute; Adjunct Associate Professor,
Centre for Mental Health, Swinburne University; Honorary
Research Fellow, School of Social and Political Science, Faculty
of Arts, University of Melbourne.



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Dr Thomas Arkell

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Centre for Human
Psychopharmacology, Swinburne University of Technology.

Dr Maggie Davidson

Lecturer, Environmental Health and Management, Life
Sciences, Western Sydney University.

Adjunct and Practice Professor David Heilpern

Professional Practice Professor and Adjunct Professor at the
School of Law and Justice at Southern Cross University.

3.45pm *PANEL DISCUSSION*

*The importance of research
from an industry perspective*

Moderated by

Rhys Cohen

Editor, Cannabiz

Cassandra Hunt

Managing Director, FreshLeaf Analytics.

James Gaskell

COO, Australian Natural Therapeutics Group.

Dr Leon Warne

Head of Research and Innovation, Little Green Pharma.

Dr Sud Agarwal

Specialist Anaesthetist; and Founder and CEO, Cannvalate.

Tommy Huppert

Founder and CEO, Cannatrek.

4.30pm Closing remarks

Professor Jerome Sarris

Professor of Integrative Mental Health, NICM Health Research
Institute, Western Sydney University.