



International Centre for Future Health Systems News



International Centre for Future Health Systems (ICFHS) News

Our Highlights

Future Health Skills Summit: A Roadmap for Australia's Future Workforce



On 25th February 2026, ICFHS, in partnership with the Faculty of Medicine & Health, UNSW hosted the Future Health Skills Summit, welcoming leaders from across health, research and government to develop a roadmap for Australia’s future workforce. A panel moderated by UNSW Dean Professor Cheryl Jones brought together Professor Jackie Curtis (UNSW Mindgardens), Professor Patricia Davidson (ICFHS), Richard Griffiths (NSW Health) and Megan Maletic (independent consultant) to examine emerging roles, workforce redesign, and the structural reforms required across education, regulation and funding to enable team-based, system-level care. [Read more.](#)

Putting the Person in Precision Medicine



ICFHS hosted an event titled “Putting the Person in Precision Medicine” on 25th February 2026, bringing together 13 national and international experts to explore how precision medicine can be effectively implemented into clinical care, especially in primary care. The event took place at the UNSW Sydney Health Translation Hub and was delivered in partnership with the [UNSW Faculty of Science](#) and the [Ramaciotti Centre for Genomics](#). [Read more.](#)

Honouring 20 Years of the Ian Webster Oration: Advancing Health for All



ICFHS is proud to celebrate two decades of the Ian Webster Oration with a new publication, Ian Webster Oration: Health for All. The commemorative booklet shines a light on the Oration’s powerful influence on health research, policy, and practice – and the remarkable keynote speakers who have shaped its legacy over the last 20 years. The publication honours Professor Ian Webster AO, Emeritus Professor of Public Health and Community Medicine at UNSW Sydney, whose extraordinary career as a clinician, educator, researcher and tireless advocate for equity has transformed the health landscape in Australia. [Read more.](#)

Professor Michael Kidd AO speaks at Australia House healthcare roundtable in London



ICFHS Foundation Director Professor Michael Kidd AO shared insights from his role as Australia’s Chief Medical Officer at an exclusive Australia–UK Chamber of Commerce healthcare roundtable. He was joined by Australia’s acting High Commissioner to the United Kingdom, along with senior leaders from health, medical research, biotechnology and digital health organisations, and government representatives. [Read more.](#)

Our People

ICFHS Professor Alexandra Martiniuk appointed to multiple major national and international research leadership roles



ICFHS Professor Alexandra Martiniuk has been appointed Deputy Director of a newly funded NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence (CRE) focused on Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) and Co-Principal Investigator on a newly funded Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) grant, Childhood Cancer Care in Nepal (DECANCHILD).

Professor Martiniuk also holds multiple Chief Investigator roles on major competitive grants, including:

- **BIG Accelerator Grant** – Cancer services and equity
- **Connaught Major Research Challenge** – Leveraging Global Cancer Insights to Strengthen Financial Protection Research

- **Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF)** – The Which Way? Quit Pack national model of care supporting Aboriginal mothers to be smoke-free in pregnancy and beyond
- **SSEAC Incubator Grant** (Sydney Southeast Asia Center, The University of Sydney) – Formative research on asparaginase hypersensitivity in the treatment of childhood acute lymphoblastic leukaemia in Vietnam

ICFHS welcomes the following new adjunct members and associate members of our Centre:

Adjunct member: Adjunct Fellow Navin Cooray

Associate member: Professor Ken Hillman

Our News & Media appearances

ICFHS Associate Member, Professor Limin Mao, reflects on transforming the global HIV response



ICFHS Associate Member, Professor Limin Mao, together with other Australian leaders involved in the national response to HIV, Brent Mackie from ACON and Dr James Gray from Health Equity Matters, reflect on the importance of centring people and building community resilience against the global impact of weakening political will and reductions in funding to tackle HIV. [Read more.](#)

ICFHS researcher to examine confidence in technology use among older people



ICFHS researcher Dr Jialing Lin, along with Dr Yuchen Xie and Professor Limin Mao from the UNSW Social Policy Research Centre, and Dr Craig Sinclair from the UNSW School of Psychology, has been awarded a grant from the UNSW Ageing Futures Institute to explore technology confidence among older people and the impact of social connectedness, cultural background, and attitudes toward ageing. This work will help establish a longer-term cross-university research partnership on digital inclusion and healthy ageing. [Read more.](#)

ICFHS Associate Professor Michael Wright delivers final Future Health Seminar of the year



ICFHS Associate Professor Michael Wright, president of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP), joined us at the Health Translation Hub to discuss General Practice: front-line evidence, future directions, and the role of research. Drawing on findings from the latest [General Practice Health of the Nation survey](#), he highlighted growing pressures on GPs, including increasing patient complexity, workforce challenges, and constraints in primary care funding, alongside rising hospital expenditure. [Read more.](#)

Professor Michael Kidd speaks about how health systems are evolving to meet future challenges



ICFHS Foundation Director Professor Michael Kidd AO shared insights from his roles, including as Australia's Chief Medical Officer, on how health systems are evolving to meet future challenges. Drawing on his experience in clinical practice, health policy and research, he explores emerging priorities for healthcare reform and what they mean for patients and practitioners. The conversation features on Health Directions, a podcast hosted by Dr Steve Robson, Chief Medical Officer at Avant. [Read more.](#)

The utilisation of wearable technology in the United Kingdom National Health Service



ICFHS researcher Chris Dietz has led research published in Medical Law review on the utilisation of wearable technology in the National Health Service in the United Kingdom. The paper uncovers how ‘wearables’ including smartwatches and fitness bands are being utilised by public hospitals and examines the legal and regulatory challenges that arise as these devices transition from consumer to health contexts. [Read more.](#)

ICFHS researchers lead methods paper providing practical guidance to strengthen the rigour and policy relevance of real -world data studies



ICFHS researchers Dr Jialing Lin and Professor Patricia Davidson, in collaboration with Associate Professor Michael Falster and Associate Professor Tim Dobbins from the School of Population Health, Dr Anurika P. De Silva (University of Melbourne), Dr Yuling Chen (Johns Hopkins School of Nursing), Dr Zeyu Zhang (Tsinghua University), and Professor Yingjuan Cao (Shandong University), have published an invited methods paper in the European Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing. [Read more.](#)

ICFHS researcher co -leads successful MRFF grant as Chief Investigator



ICFHS researcher Dr Braulio Valencia Arroyo is a Chief Investigator on a major Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) funded project aimed at characterising clinical predictors of Post-Acute Sequelae of COVID-19 (PASC), commonly referred to as long COVID. [Read more.](#)

ICFHS researchers co -lead review of global trends in anxiety and depression related to the COVID-19



ICFHS Foundation Director Professor Michael Kidd AO, Adjunct Professor Karen Tu, and associate member Anthony Sunjaya have joined with colleagues from around the world in a study examining how primary care responded to mental health needs during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. The research, published in *The Lancet Primary Care*, analysed over one billion visits across 11 countries from 2018 to 2023, revealing a sharp rise in anxiety- and depression-related consultations during the pandemic, with rates remaining elevated in the recovery period. [Read more.](#)

Professor Michael Kidd AO co -leads research highlighting AI risks and opportunities in primary care



ICFHS Foundation Director Professor Michael Kidd AO has co-authored a review published in *The Lancet Primary Care* on the rapid rise of artificial intelligence in primary care. The review looks at how AI tools, from digital scribes to patient-facing apps, are supporting clinicians and patients, and evaluates their effects on safety, effectiveness, equity and environmental sustainability. [Read more.](#)

Waterloo Redevelopment: Place Standard Tool Workshop



ICFHS's Health Equity Research and Development Unit (HERDU) and the UNSW Cities Institute held a workshop on 12th February 2026 to apply the Place Standard Tool to the Waterloo redevelopment. Tenants and stakeholders (Homes NSW, Stockland, City West Housing, Birribee Housing, Link Wentworth, NSW Planning, City of Sydney, and Groundswell NGOs) came together to share perspectives on place quality and determinants of health in the Waterloo South precinct, and to ideate opportunities for improvement. The workshop provided valuable insights to inform renewal activities, including design of buildings and the public domain, health and human services planning, and the community-led health impact assessment (HIA). [Croakey Media reported on the workshop.](#)

NSW Health Prevention Research Support Program



ICFHS Associate Professor Fiona Haigh co-delivered a Health Inequalities Workshop at UNSW on 16th and 17th February 2026 as part of the Master of Public Health Inequalities course. Dr Christopher Standen, Dr Rafal Chomik and Dr Cathy O'Callaghan from ICFHS also shared their expertise with students. Alongside UNSW Master of Public Health students, we offered places to representatives from NSW Local Health Districts and NSW Health Ministry. This work is funded by NSW Health Prevention Research Support Program. The workshop had 66 participants including representatives from 13 of the 15 NSW

Local Health Districts, Justice Health and the Centre for Population Health, NSW Health, building state-wide capacity for equity-focused practice. [Read more about the course.](#)

Our publications

- [Distributed Health Literacy Among People with Intellectual Disability, Their Supporters and Healthcare Professionals: A Scoping Review](#)
By Maryann Barrington, Karen Fisher, Ben Harris-Roxas, Julian Trollor, **Catherine Spooner**, Julie Christensen, Janelle Weise
- [Examining wealth-related inequality in childhood vaccination in Fiji using the UNICEF Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2021](#)
By Connie Lam, Irteja Islam, Rachel Devi, Meru Sheel, **Alexandra Martiniuk**
- [Patient Access to Opioids for Pain Management in SEA with a Focus on Timor-Leste: A Scoping Review](#)
By Julia Da Costa, **Alexandra Martiniuk**, Deborah Bateson, Clive Stevens, Betty Char
- [Opening the black box: methodological considerations in the design and evaluation of nurse-led clinics](#)
By **Patricia Davidson**, **Jialing Lin**
- [Addressing missing data in real-world administrative health datasets Open Access](#)
By **Jialing Lin**, Anurika Silva, Michael Falster, Timothy Dobbins, Yuling Chen, Zeyu Zhang, Yingjuan Cao, **Patricia Davidson**
- [Community Health Workers' and Pharmacists' Perspectives of a CHW-Pharmacist Collaboration Model to Support Medication Adherence](#)
By Carole Bandiera, Sabuj Kanti Mistry, **Elizabeth Harris**, **Mark Harris**, Parisa Aslani
- [A qualitative study exploring a community health navigator intervention for patients with chronic and complex care needs transitioning from hospital to home](#)
By **Jacqueline Ramirez**, **Sharon Parker**, Carole Bandiera, Parisa Aslani, Anthony Brown, Fiona Doolan-Noble, Sara Javanparast, **Fiona Haigh**, Regina Osten, **Sarah Wright**, Ben Harris-Roxas, Debra Donnelly, **Mark Harris**
- [Estimating health benefits of a peri-urban railway: A quantitative health impact assessment focused on diabetes](#)
By Soumya Mazumdar, Nicole Aiken, Aniruddha Banerjee, Andrew Golden, Chetan Tiwari, **Fiona Haigh**
- [Navigating health and social care systems: professional tensions, cross-sector effects, and methodological complexities in navigation research and practice](#)
By Mia Harrison, Esther Tordjmann, **Fiona Haigh**, Ilan Katz
- [A scoping review to identify opportunities and challenges for communities of South Asian origin in accessing mental health services and support in high-income countries](#)
By Gayathri Menon, Haribondhu Sarma, Amy Bestman, **Cathy O'Callaghan** & Uday Narayan Yadav
- [Interventions to improve testing, linkage to care, and treatment for hepatitis C infection in prison: a systematic review and meta-analysis](#)
By Evan Cunningham, Alice Wheeler, Behzad Hajarizadeh, Clare French, Rachel Roche, Monineath Roth, Alex Willing, Hossain Sazzad, Alison Marshall, Guillaume Fontaine, Anna Conway, **Braulio Mark Valencia**, Justin Presseau, John Ward, Louisa Degenhardt, Gregory Dore, Matthew Hickman, Peter Vickerman, Lise Lafferty, Andrew Lloyd, Yumi Sheehan, Matthew Akiyama, Nadine Kronfli, Joaquin Cabezas, Jason Grebely

- [Between- and within-host mutation of dengue virus](#)
By Sachith Maduranga, **Braulio Mark Valencia**, Chathurani Sigera, Praveen Weeratunga, Deepika Fernando, Senaka Rajapakse, Melissa Rapadas, Ira Deveson, Andrew Lloyd, Rowena Bull, Chaturaka Rodrigo
- [General practice incentives: a review of the international literature](#)
By **Mark Harris**, Joel Rhee, **Margo Barr**, Anurag Sharma, Ben Harris-Roxas, Mary Burns, Kate Marshall, Rula Ali, Anthony Sunjaya, Cathelijne van Kemenade, **Michael Kidd**
- Conducting a Repeated Cross-Sectional Survey for 24 Years in a Disadvantaged Community: The Miller Household Survey (1999-2023)
By Andrew Reid, **Mark Harris**, **Margo Barr**, **Katherine Meikle**, Karla Jaques, Soumya Mazumdar, **Elizabeth Harris**, Ben Harris-Roxas, Vanessa Rose, **Patrick Harris**

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