

## Future Doctors Australia

### List of Medical Specialists & Clinical Staff Guest Speakers and Presenters

The following is the list of medical specialists (consultants) and medical staff who have participated or are scheduled to participate in the Future Doctors Australia Program as guest speakers and medical speciality presenters.

Please note that the duration of each program features a panel of four senior industry representatives, which may include any of the professionals listed below as well as other individuals of similar calibre not yet on this list.

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**Professor Habib Bhurawala** is a Clinical Associate Professor and an experienced General Paediatrician with expertise in various leadership, medical education and clinical roles. He holds the position of Head of Department and Senior Staff Specialist in Paediatrics at the Nepean Hospital. Dr. Bhurawala is also a senior clinical lecturer at the University of Sydney and also a Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Notre Dame, Sydney.



**Professor Thomas J. Hugh** Professor Tom Hugh is an Upper Gastrointestinal Surgeon based at Royal North Shore Hospital and North Shore Private Hospital. He specialises in the treatment of patients with gallstones, liver tumours, and abdominal wall and groin hernias. Professor Hugh is the Chair of Surgery at the Northern Clinical School, University of Sydney, based at Royal North Shore Hospital. He is the founder and Director of the Surgical, Education, Research and Training (SERT) Institute at Royal North Shore Hospital. He is passionate about high-quality, evidence-based clinical care and the training of future surgeons. He undertakes both clinical and laboratory research and currently supervises several PhD and Masters students. He was a co-founder of the RNSH Clinical Skills Centre, currently located within the Sydney Clinical Skills and Simulation Centre, in the Kolling Building, RNSH. He has organised and taught many open and laparoscopic skills courses over the past 20 years.



**Professor Eugenia Pedagogos** is an experienced clinician, researcher and leader with over 30 years' experience fostering collaborative relationships in the medical, education and health care sectors. She is a practicing Nephrologist at Western Health and previously served as a Clinician Researcher at the Royal Melbourne Hospital as well as Medical Director and Director of Medical Innovation and Clinical trials at Epworth HealthCare. Professor Pedagogos is also involved in teaching medical students at the University of Melbourne.



**Professor Ajay Sharma** is a leading Australian paediatric gastroenterologist recognised for his clinical expertise, academic leadership, and contributions to improving digestive health outcomes for children. Based in Western Australia, he has played a significant role in developing paediatric gastroenterology services, supporting the diagnosis and management of complex gastrointestinal, liver, and nutritional disorders in infants, children, and adolescents. Professor Sharma is actively involved in medical education and research, contributing to advancements in paediatric digestive disease management and mentoring the next generation of clinicians. His work spans clinical practice, teaching, and collaboration across multidisciplinary teams to enhance patient care and health system outcomes.



**Professor Fiona Wood** is an Australian plastic and reconstructive surgeon internationally recognised for her pioneering work in burns treatment and research. She is Director of the Burns Service of Western Australia and a consultant surgeon at Royal Perth Hospital and Princess Margaret Hospital. Professor Wood co-developed the revolutionary “spray-on skin” technology, a cell-based therapy that significantly improves healing and survival outcomes for burn victims. Her leadership was especially prominent following the 2002 Bali bombings, where her expertise helped save many critically injured patients.

Beyond clinical practice, Professor Wood is an active researcher and educator, contributing extensively to advances in tissue engineering and trauma care. She was named Australian of the Year in 2005 and has received numerous national and international honours recognising her innovation, service to medicine, and dedication to improving patient outcomes.



**Dr Madeleine Adams** is a comprehensive ophthalmologist and covers all aspects of general ophthalmology. Dr Adams works as an ophthalmologist for the Westside Private Hospital, and holds a position as Senior Lecturer at the University of Queensland. She is involved in teaching the next generation of eye doctors, as well as mentoring junior doctors and medical students.

Dr Adams was awarded a PhD by the University of Melbourne for her research into Age Related Macular Degeneration.



**Dr Sid Agarwal** is a senior staff specialist in Intensive Care currently based in Brisbane. He has an extensive experience in this field, having worked in Northern territory and Queensland for last 17 years. Dr Agarwal also has vast experience in working with rural, remote and indigenous communities in NT and QLD.

His areas of interest are training and education, ultrasound and echocardiography and has supervised and trained many intensive care specialists across Australia. He is an educator in both paediatric and adult resuscitation courses and has presented in various seminars, workshops and courses.



**Dr Subhra Bhattacharyya** is a psychiatrist and psychotherapist who works with Hunter New England Local Health District. She is a visiting psychiatrist at Maitland Private and Toronto Private Hospitals. Her areas of interest are General Adult Psychiatry, Post traumatic stress disorders and Personality Disorders.

Dr. Bhattacharyya is also a Conjoint Lecturer at the School of Medicine and Public Health at The University of Newcastle.



**Dr. Michael Byrom** is a cardiothoracic surgeon currently working as a Staff Specialist at Gold Coast University Hospital, QLD, and is also an Accredited Practitioner at St John of God Hospital Geelong, VIC. Additionally, he chairs the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons’ CLEAR course and serves as Deputy Chair of the Prevocational & Skills Education Committee.

A PhD graduate of the University of Sydney in preclinical biomaterials, Dr Byrom’s research and teaching span evidence appraisal, quality improvement, and innovation in cardiac and thoracic surgery. He has held clinical and academic posts at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Deakin University, and the University of Sydney, and contributes to human research ethics oversight.



**Dr Lyndon Chan** - is a specialist Ear, Nose, and Throat (ENT) surgeon based in Sydney, Australia. Originally from Brisbane, Dr Chan's pursuit of excellence has taken him throughout Australia and internationally.

Over the course of his training, Dr. Chan has accomplished a triple fellowship certification status from the Duke University Hospital, USA; The Singapore General Hospital, Singapore; and from the Wollongong Hospital, Australia. Dr. Chan is also a board member for the international surgical sleep society and surgical committee member for the Australasian Sleep Society.



**Dr. Jing Chang** completed her Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) at the University of New South Wales. Following her internship in Sydney, she pursued diverse clinical experiences across Australia, undertaking residency in Wollongong and Gosford. Her anaesthetic training began in Wagga Wagga and continued in Melbourne, culminating in a fellowship in Darwin. Driven by a passion for service and global health, Dr Chang has volunteered in Sri Lanka, Africa, and China, providing free surgical care and medical education.



**Dr. Prathmesh Contractor** has acquired expertise in the medical profession from his experience working in RBWH, QCH, SCHHS, and Redcliffe Hospital for over 20 Years in trauma and orthopaedic surgery, as well as through advanced training in skin cancer surgery. Dr Contractor possess a strong interest in Trauma and Orthopaedics managing bone- muscle-joint conditions, skeletal injuries, arthritis, as well as sports and spinal conditions. More recently, Dr Contractor has moved from surgery to more general medical practice in Brisbane. He is currently working as a GP, specialising in muscular and skeletal conditions as well as skin cancer.



**Dr Nazer Fahaz** is a General Paediatrics and Clinical Genetics Specialist, who currently works at the Royal Children’s Hospital, Melbourne. Prior to embarking on the journey towards a career in Paediatric Medicine, he worked in Emergency Medicine in both regional and metro hospitals. He has a keen interest in teaching and in addition to clinical tutoring, he also does community outreach through CPR training initiatives.



**Dr Sami Farah** is a highly experienced Australian orthopaedic surgeon specialising in hip and knee surgery, including joint replacement, minimally invasive anterior-hip arthroplasty, resurfacing, and sports-knee procedures. He holds a combined MBBS/BSc from the University of Sydney, a Master of Biomedical Engineering from UNSW, and is a fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons and the Australian Orthopaedic Association. Dr Farah serves as a Visiting Medical Officer at multiple private hospitals and acts as a reference consultant for the global medical device company Medacta, mentoring surgeons in advanced hip-replacement techniques. He is also deeply involved in surgical education — examining for the college OSCE, assessing surgical mortality audits, and teaching both under- and post-graduate surgeons — blending clinical expertise, engineering know-how and a commitment to surgical training.



**Dr Blake Fidock** is an experienced Orthopaedic Surgeon focused on delivering streamlined, high-quality care for patients with joint, musculoskeletal, and trauma-related conditions. Dr Fidock graduated with First Class Honours from UNSW in 2012, completed a Master of Traumatology (Orthopaedics) with Distinction in 2018, and undertook orthopaedic training across SA and NT. He earned FRACS and FAOrthA in 2024, followed by a fellowship in robotic hip and knee arthroplasty in Brisbane.



**Dr Alpa Gupta** is a Cardiology Fellow at Nepean Hospital. She graduated from Bond University in 2018 with a Doctor of Medicine (MD). Dr. Gupta completed her internship, residency and basic physician training at Nepean Hospital, where she is now completing her advanced training. Dr. Gupta also has a keen interest in research and international publications.



**Dr Rachael Hickinbotham** is a highly experienced obstetrician with a particular focus on creating an individualised experience for families. She has a special interest in women's physical and mental health.

Dr Rachael Hickinbotham is an obstetrician and gynaecologist with over 30 years professional healthcare experience. She is passionate about helping families through this exciting experience and places a huge emphasis on creating a personalised experience.

Rachael has a special interest in delivering a holistic approach that focuses on the physical, mental and emotional.



**Dr Amanda Hugman** is a specialist clinical and laboratory haematologist practicing in benign and malignant haematology. Dr Hugman is currently a Staff Specialist Haematologist at St George Hospital in Kogarah as well as working at a Manly private practise. She manages patients with benign and malignant conditions including the provision of inpatient and outpatient chemotherapy and Autologous Bone Marrow Transplantation.

She has a dual appointment with NSW Pathology and as such she provides supervision in the Haematology Laboratory of tests important in the diagnosis of haematological diseases. Dr Hugman also facilitates lectures to St George Clinical School students and takes part in the undergraduate and post graduate Basic Physician training programs.



**Dr Andrew Hugman** is a Digital Health Medical Advisor for the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, an emergency physician and NSW Ambulance State Retrieval Consultant based in Sydney. He is also the Managing Director and Digital Officer at Manly Haematology. With over 13 years of experience in digital health, Dr Hugman specialises in online governance in healthcare, including medical records, digital diagnostic imaging and online clinical tools.

Dr Hugman is passionate about digital health delivering high-quality patient care, increased efficiency and widespread improvements.



**Dr Mathanhi Jegatheeswaran** is an Intensive Care Consultant with a focus on simulation-based education, trainee welfare, and staff wellbeing. She works across interstate sites and is currently undertaking a Master's in Health Professions Education. Outside of medicine, she's a passionate traveller and lifelong learner.



**Dr. Phillip Karpati** is a current medical registrar working in Brisbane and very soon into a specialist physician training program. He is also in the process of completing his Basic Physician Training in. Dr. Karpati graduated from The University of Sydney, where he also commenced his PhD studies in the area of protein synthesis and their application in developing therapeutics.



**Dr Ceena Kebriti** is a Resident Medical Officer at St Vincent's Hospital. He graduated from the University of Sydney in 2022 with a Doctor of Medicine (MD). He completed large components of his student placements at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital (Sydney). He is also the President of the Resident Medical Officer Association at St Vincent's Hospital. Ceena's areas of interest include Critical Care and Internal Medicine."



**Dr. Senara Kulatunga** graduated with her Doctor of Medicine degree at The University of New South Wales in 2025. She is currently completing her medical internship across facilities in the rural Victoria region. Senara has been a long standing team member with NIE and started her role with the company in 2017. During this time, she has regularly assisted with the NIE Medical Interview Workshops, Medical Pathway Webinars and the Future Doctors Australia programs.



**Dr Richard Laherty** is a neurosurgeon and spine surgeon operating at St Vincent's Private Hospital Northside. He offers care for patients across the range of neurosurgery including oncology and trauma. His subspecialisation is spine surgery, the work-up and surgical management of adults with spine problems including degenerated discs and herniations, spinal canal and foraminal stenoses, spinal deformity, spine tumours, infections and trauma.

Dr Laherty is a Senior Lecturer with the University of Queensland's School of Medicine and is a member of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Academy of Surgical Educators, serving as faculty on programs including the Early Management of Severe Trauma, the Care of the Critically Ill Surgical Patient and the Operating With Respect courses and on the college-approved Definitive Surgical Trauma Care course.



**Dr. Antoinette Lam** graduated with her Bachelor of Medicine & Bachelor of Surgery degree at The University of Adelaide in 2024. She is currently completing her medical internship across facilities in the Central Adelaide Local Health Network. Anne has been involved in working with NIE for over seven years. During this time, she has regularly assisted with the NIE Medical Interview Workshops, Medical Pathway Webinars and the Future Doctors Australia programs.



**Dr Clayton Lam** is a current Anaesthesia Registrar working at Flinders Medical Centre in South Australia. Having graduated from the Doctor of Medicine degree program at Griffith University, Gold Coast QLD, he also completed a Masters of Critical Care Medicine from the University of Sydney. In leading up to his medical degree he also completed a Bachelor of Medical Science Undergraduate degree at Griffith University and a Graduate Certificate in Public Health.



**Dr Fahad Langroo** is a General Practitioner working in Melbourne. He obtained his qualification as a Doctor of Medicine from Griffith University and has worked across various specialties, including paediatrics, obstetrics and gynaecology and emergency medicine.

Dr. Langroo has a special interest in obstetrics and gynaecology, paediatrics and sports medicine.



**Dr Casey Lo** is a cardiothoracic surgery fellow currently working at Gold Coast University Hospital, where he is completing advanced training with a particular focus on robotic thoracic surgery. He completed his medical degree (MBBS) at Monash University, followed by a Graduate Diploma in Surgical Anatomy from the University of Melbourne and a Master of Surgery from Monash University. Dr. Lo has also been involved in various teaching roles for the University of Melbourne, University of Otago and more recently the University of Queensland.



**Dr Rehana Lulania** is a highly dedicated, professional, and experienced Specialist Obstetrician and Gynaecologist who always has her patients' interest at heart. She has a special interest in Laparoscopic surgery, high-risk pregnancies, fertility, PCOS, recurrent miscarriages.

Dr Lulania completed her MBBS and MD in India and then went on to complete her Fellowship in Australia at St George Hospital Sydney and at The Sutherland Hospital. She is a Fellow of The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetrician and Gynaecology.



**Dr Shahab Pathan** is a specialist Cardiologist who is currently undertaking a Fellowship at Nepean Hospital in advanced multi modal cardiac imaging including advanced echocardiography, Cardiac CT and MRI. He completed his Basic Physician and Advanced Cardiology Training at Concord Hospital, Sydney.

He is interested in all aspects of Cardiology including preventative health and heart failure. He strongly believes in the importance of delivering patient focused care through open and honest communication and understanding the specific needs for individual patients.



**Dr Siri S. Pathamanathan** works as a Rehabilitation Medicine Physician Specialist for Macquarie health. She has been working in the field of medicine for more than 20 years with prior surgical training in Otorhinolaryngology (ENT) in 2010. During that time, she worked in various surgical fields such as Neurosurgery, Oral-Maxilla facial surgery, and plastic surgery. Since coming to Australia, she explored working in Emergency Medicine before making the final decision to enter the rewarding field of rehabilitation medicine. Her special interest is in the field of cancer rehabilitation and rehabilitation of developmental disabilities.



**Dr Maha Rangunath** finished her medical degree in India and completed her medical training in the UK, and obtained her specialist certification from the Royal College in Obstetrics and Gynaecology which included training in subfertility, assisted conception and laparoscopic surgery. She then went onto complete a postgraduate Master's degree in Reproduction and Foetal Development from Bristol University. She was conferred with a Fellowship from the College (FRCOG) in 2010.

Maha worked in the UK for over 30 years, 27 of those as a Fertility Specialist and Consultant in Reproductive Medicine and Gynaecology. She was the Medical Director of CARE fertility in Nottingham, one of the UK's largest private IVF clinics and under her leadership, CARE fertility reached the top 10 clinics in the UK for clinical pregnancy rates in women under 35 years. Since moving to Perth WA in 2019 to be with family, she has been granted the FRANZCOG, and is on the Specialist Register.



**Dr. Basil Razi** is a urology registrar and Master of Philosophy candidate based in Sydney, Australia. He completed his Bachelor of Medical Science and Bachelor of Science (Honours) at the University of New South Wales, followed by a Doctor of Medicine at the University of Melbourne. Initially interested in ENT, he found his passion in urology, with particular interests in oncology, endourology, and reconstructive urology. He has accrued significant clinical surgical experience across both metropolitan and regional hospitals while maintaining a strong active involvement in research.



**Dr Michelle Robinson** Dr Michelle Robinson is an Intensive Care Fellow at the John Hunter Hospital in the North Coast region of NSW. She has extensive experience in both peripheral and tertiary level hospitals and was a retrieval registrar based in Launceston, Tasmania.

She has a keen interest in teaching being appointed a clinical lecturer by the University of Tasmania and University of Newcastle and also has several years of experience in clinical governance through the private sector. She has an undergraduate degree in Biomedical Science in Forensic Biology and completed a Masters of Public health majoring in Biosecurity and Disaster Preparedness. She is also a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and has held several non-for-profit board appointments.



**Dr Oybek Rustamov** is a Member of The Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of The United Kingdom (2007) and has completed sub-specialty training in Reproductive Medicine and Surgery at Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (2015). Oybek holds a Postgraduate Research Degree (MD) from The University of Manchester (2015) and has extensive scientific expertise in the evaluation of ovarian reserve and ovarian stimulation in IVF cycles.



**Dr Jeevaka Samarasinghe** qualified from St Georges Hospital Medical School, University of London and was a GP partner , GP trainer and GP Appraiser in England for 14 years. He has been a GP in Australia since 2018. His medical interests include heart disease, respiratory medicine (Asthma and COPD) diabetes, palliative care, oncology, elderly care, orthopedics, dive medicine as well as health technology and its development. Outside of medicine, Jeeve plays guitar, tennis, is a scuba diver and loves all things to do with aviation.



**Dr Devita Surjana** is a Specialist Dermatology with a special interest in acne, rosacea, psoriasis, hair and scalp disorders, and skin cancer management. She aims to create personalised care for patients to achieve a better and healthier skin. Dr Surjana graduated with a combined Science and Medicine degree from the University of New South Wales in 2005, and she also later obtained a PhD from the University of Sydney in 2013 on the Role of Nicotinamide in DNA Repair and Prevention of Non-melanoma Skin Cancer. She completed her specialist dermatology training at Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital, Princess Alexandra Hospital, Queensland Institute of Dermatology, and Queensland Children’s Hospital. She became a fellow of the Australasian College of Dermatologists in 2016.



**Dr Vipin Tayal** is an experienced rheumatologist who has been practising since 2008, with expertise in managing the full spectrum of rheumatic and multisystem disorders. He holds an MBBS, is a Member of the Royal College of Physicians (UK), and a Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians. Dr Tayal has a particular interest in inflammatory arthritis and connective tissue diseases, drawing on his background in both rheumatology and general medicine to care for patients with complex conditions.



**Dr Caitlin Williams** currently in her third year of basic physician training and halfway through the RACP exams, aiming to commence Advanced Training in 2027. Currently she is working as a medical registrar at Western Health where she regularly takes opportunities to teach medical students and interns. She graduated from Monash University in 2021 with a Doctor of medicine/bachelor of medical sciences (MD). She completed student placements at Monash Health, Alfred Health, and Mildura base hospital. She then went on to complete her internship in Ballarat before commencing BPT at Western. Special area of interest is stroke and neurology.