



ResearchFest 2026 Program

Tuesday 11 – Wednesday 12 August 2026

Day 1 – Tuesday 11 August 2026

Time	Session	Venue
12.30pm	Welcome to Day 1 of ResearchFest 2026	John Lindell Lecture Theatre In-person only
12.40 – 1.15pm	Opening Keynote: The art and science of consumer engagement <i>A/Prof Kimberley Haines Principal Research Fellow in the Department of Critical Care, University of Melbourne; Physiotherapy Research Lead at Western Health</i>	John Lindell Lecture Theatre In-person only
1.15-2.15	Consumer Partnership Awards	Online only Join webinar here
2.15-3.15pm	Nursing Research & Innovation Symposium (inc Awards) <i>Including keynote presentation from Professor Marie Gerdts, Dean - Nursing and Midwifery, La Trobe University</i>	Hybrid event In-person at John Lindell Lecture Theatre Online via Teams
3.15-4.15pm	Quality Improvement Symposium (inc Awards)	John Lindell Lecture Theatre In-person only
4.15-5pm	Afternoon tea and poster walks	Library

Day 2 – Wednesday 11 August 2026

Time	Session	Venue
9–9.10am	Welcome to Day 2 of ResearchFest 2026	John Lindell Lecture Theatre In-person only
9.10-9.40am	Keynote: Transforming Child and Adolescent Health Through Research <i>Professor Harriet Hiscock</i> Associate Director, Research at the Centre for Community Child Health, Director of The Royal Children's Hospital Health Services Research Unit and Group Leader, Health Services and Economics group at Murdoch Children's Research Institute	John Lindell Lecture Theatre In-person only
9.45-10.30am	Panel discussion: The Future of Health Services Research <i>Chair: Professor Jason Trubiano, Director of Research, Austin Health</i> <i>Panellists including:</i> • <i>Professor Harriet Hiscock, Director of The Royal Children's Hospital Health Services Research Unit</i> • <i>Professor Euan Wallace, Chief Research & Innovation Officer, Monash Health</i> • <i>Jodie Geissler, CEO Austin Health</i> • <i>Patrick Hilley, IBD Pharmacist, Austin Health and PhD Candidate, University of Melbourne</i>	John Lindell Lecture Theatre In-person only
10.30-10.50am	Morning tea and poster walk	Library
10.50-10.55am	Launch of Austin Health research flagships Professor Jason Trubiano, Director of Research	John Lindell Lecture Theatre In-person only

Time	Session	Venue
10.55am - 12.35pm	Flagship spotlight: Immunocompromised Host Symposium <i>Details to be confirmed</i>	John Lindell Lecture Theatre In-person only
12.35- 1.45pm	Lunch including Early Career Researchers Grand Rounds (from 1-1.45pm) <i>Featuring oral presentations for the AMRF Early Career Research Award</i>	John Lindell Lecture Theatre Hybrid: Link TBC
1.45-3.10pm	Flagship spotlight: Critical Care Symposium <i>Featuring:</i> <i>Prof Rinaldo Bellomo Critical Care Lecture</i> <i>Associate Professor Ary Serpa Neto, Intensivist and Director of Intensive Care Research, Austin Health</i> <i>Keynote address</i> <i>Prof John Fraser AO, Pre-Eminent Specialist, Intensive Care Medicine, The Prince Charles Hospital: ICU of the future</i> <i>Oral presentations</i> <i>Associate Professor Charissa Zaga: Validation of the Communication with an Artificial airway Tool with critically ill patients: the Crit-CAT study</i> <i>Tom Rollison, Manager Physiotherapy, Austin Health: Towards precision-guided early rehabilitation to improve physical recovery from critical illness</i> <i>Discussion and Q&A</i>	John Lindell Lecture Theatre In-person only
3.10-4pm	Afternoon tea and poster walk	Library
4-4.45pm	Plenary keynote: The future of research <i>Professor John Fraser AO</i> <i>Pre-Eminent Specialist, Intensive Care Medicine, The Prince Charles Hospital</i>	John Lindell Lecture Theatre In-person only

Time	Session	Venue
4.45-5.45pm	Panel discussion - The future of research - discovery, translation and impact <i>Chair: Professor Jason Trubiano, Director of Research, Austin Health</i> <i>Panellists including:</i> • <i>Nobel Laureate Professor Peter Doherty, Patron of the Doherty Institute</i> • <i>Professor John Fraser AO, Pre-Eminent Specialist, Intensive Care Medicine, The Prince Charles Hospital</i> • <i>Professor Brett Sutton AO, Director, Health & Biosecurity, CSIRO</i> • <i>Professor Elif Ekinci, Head of Diabetes, Austin Health; Head of the Department of Medicine, University of Melbourne</i>	John Lindell Lecture Theatre In-person only
5.45-6pm	ResearchFest Awards	John Lindell Lecture Theatre In-person only
6-7pm	ResearchFest Drinks and Networking Event	Innovation Space, Library