

# Program Guide

## Day 1 Thursday 26 March 2026



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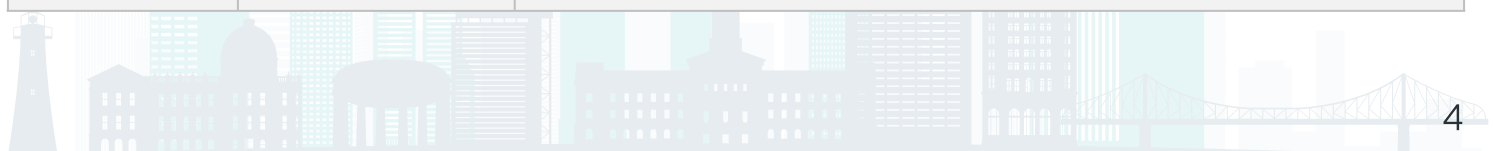
Time	Session	Speakers & Details
08:15–08:45		<b>Arrival &amp; Check-in</b>
08:45–10:30	<b>Welcome &amp; Acknowledgement of Country</b>	Professor Ruth Hubbard, Director of the Australian Frailty Network, will open the Summit with a warm welcome and Acknowledgement of Country. She will set the scene for the day, outline the purpose of the Summit, and acknowledge the collective efforts driving frailty-focused innovation across Australia.
	<b>Keynote presentation:</b> <b>“What do clinical trials on frailty tell us?”</b>	Professor Heather Allore (Yale University) will present key clinical trial insights on frailty—its progression, links with chronic and acute conditions, and impact on treatment effectiveness. She will summarise major international and Australian evidence on frailty-focused interventions, and offer practical tips for applying trial findings to community-dwelling older adults.
10:30–11:00		<b>Morning Tea</b>
11:00–12:30	<b>Development of Australian Consensus Statement for prevention and management of frailty among community-dwelling older adults</b>	<b>Chair: Professor Elizabeth Whiting</b>  <b>Panellists:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dr Jenny Job</li><li>• Dr Anthony Villani</li><li>• Professor Sarah Hilmer</li><li>• Professor Mark Morgan</li><li>• Ms Angeline Simons</li><li>• Dr Emily Gordon</li><li>• Ms Caroline Polak-Scowcroft &amp; Ms Tho Tien (Consumers)</li></ul> <p>This session introduces the development of Australia’s national consensus statements for the prevention and management of frailty in community-dwelling older adults. Participants will view a short overview of the methodology and learn how multidisciplinary experts from across the country shaped the recommendations. The session will set the scene for the interactive workshop that follows, where attendees can explore the statements in more depth.</p>

Time	Session	Speakers & Details
12:30–13:30	<b>Lunch</b>	
13:30–14:00	<p><b>Keynote presentation:</b></p> <p><b>“A new rights-based Aged Care Act: The importance of informed choice in home care”</b></p>	<p><b>Speakers: Dr Mandy Callary &amp; Ms Esther Westra</b></p> <p>Australia’s new rights-based Aged Care Act places informed choice at the centre of home care. This session will explore what informed choice looks like in practice, why it matters for dignity and autonomy, and what needs to change to ensure choice is meaningful for older people and their families.</p>
14:00–15:00	<p><b>Workshop:</b></p> <p><b>“Translating frailty-focused care into practice to support older adults at home”</b></p>	<p><b>Facilitators : Dr Adrienne Young &amp; Dr Natasha Reid</b></p> <p>This hands-on workshop applies the new national consensus statements to real-world frailty-focused care planning under the Support at Home program. Participants will work through scenarios from the older person’s perspective, explore how funding limits and service availability shape decision-making, and identify gaps between evidence-based recommendations and current service options. The session will also consider implications for priority populations and conclude with a co-designed action plan outlining the supports, tools, and system enablers needed to put the consensus statements into practice.</p>
15:00–15:30	<b>Afternoon Tea</b>	
15:30–16:30	<b>Workshop Cont.</b>	
16:30–16:45	<b>Day 1 Wrap-up</b>	<b>Dr David Ward</b>
17:00–19:00	<p><i>Networking Reception</i></p> <p><b>Drinks and canapes in the River Room &amp; Terrace</b></p>	



Time	Session	Details
08:00-08:45	<b>Networking Morning</b>	
08:45-09:00	<b>Welcome &amp; Recap</b>	<b>Professor Sarah Hilmer</b>
09:00-10:30	<b>CRE Seed Grant Recipients &amp; Best Abstract Presentations</b>	<p><b>Chairs: Dr David Carroll &amp; Ms Katie Arnott</b></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Nicola Straiton</li> <li>• Ms Melinda Williamson</li> <li>• Dr Emilia Anderson</li> <li>• Ms Heidi Johnston</li> <li>• Dr Hien Thi Nguyen (best abstract presentation)</li> <li>• Ms Kirsten Parker (best abstract presentation)</li> </ul> <p>This session spotlights emerging frailty research from PhD students and early-career researchers. It features presentations from recipients of AFN's NHMRC Centre for Research Excellence Seed Grants, alongside the top-rated abstracts invited from the poster submissions. Together, these short talks showcase up-and-coming projects and highlight the next generation of researchers contributing to frailty knowledge and innovation.</p>
10:30-11:00	<b>Morning Tea</b>	
11:00-11:45	<b>Consumer-Partnered Frailty Research Showcase</b>	<p><b>Chair: Professor Sarah Hilmer</b></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Bronwyn Dreher &amp; Mr Bevin McLaren</li> <li>• A/Prof Anita Goh &amp; Ms Lina Scalfino</li> <li>• Ms Esther Afolabi &amp; Mr Peter Button</li> </ul> <p>This session highlights three frailty research projects co-presented by researchers and the consumers who partnered in the work. Together, they will showcase how consumer engagement strengthens research design, relevance, and impact in frailty research by offering real examples of collaboration in the frailty space.</p>

Time	Session	Details	
11:45–12:30	<b>Ageing in the Outback</b>	<b>Chair: Dr Jenny Job</b> <b>Speakers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Jenny Job</li> <li>• Ms Sally Fraser</li> <li>• Ms Peta Dampney</li> </ul>	<b>Panellists:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms Kelly Bethel</li> <li>• Ms Leisa Fraser</li> <li>• Ms Peta Dampney</li> <li>• Ms Sheri Hammet</li> <li>• Ms Melissa Forman</li> </ul>
		<p>This session explores Western Queensland PHN’s Ageing in the Outback strategy, highlighting what ageing well looks like in remote and rural communities. Presenters will discuss the unique challenges of delivering frailty-informed care in settings with vast distances, limited services, and workforce constraints, and share innovative approaches being used to support older adults ageing safely and independently in the outback.</p>	
12:30–13:15	<b>Lunch</b>		
13:15–14:45	<b>Frailty Innovations on the Frontline</b>	<b>Chair: Dr Shaun Hosein</b>  <b>Speakers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms Kym Murphy</li> <li>• Dr Racheal Moulde</li> <li>• Dr Denise Hobson</li> </ul>	<p>This session highlights frontline innovations in frailty care across emergency, aeromedical, and hospital settings. Speakers from the Royal Flying Doctor Service, Queensland Ambulance Service, and hospital emergency departments will share practical examples of how frailty-informed approaches are being embedded in real-time clinical environments. The session showcases cutting-edge models shaping the future of urgent and acute frailty care.</p>
14:45–15:00	<b>Closing</b>	<i>Professor Ruth Hubbard</i> <b>Reflections, awards, and acknowledgements</b>	





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