



Preliminary Programme

Guide only. Subject to change. Current as of 8th December 2025.

Tuesday 25th August 2026

Pre-Conference workshops

9am to 12.30pm Room: Madla 2 Workshop: Respiratory Support and applications (details to come)	8am to 1pm Room: Betbiyan 3 Workshop: Neonatal Skin and Wound Care Synopsis below	9am to 12.30pm Room: Bundirrik 4 Workshop: Nutrition and Feeding Synopsis below
1 to 4.30 pm Room: Madla 2 Workshop: Advanced Practice Airway Management Synopsis below	1.30 to 5pm Room: Betbiyan 3 Workshop: Neurodevelopmental Care Synopsis below	1.30 to 3.30pm Room: Bundirrik 4 Workshop: Quality improvement in Neonatal Care Synopsis below

Neonatal Skin and Wound Care supported by the Neonatal Skin Special Interest Group

Title: **Protecting and supporting neonatal skin: knowing skin, products and best practices**

Synopsis: This interactive workshop will focus on neonatal skin care, wounds, dressings and adhesives. The workshop will provide an overview of skin structure and function and practical stations with allow participants to gain an understanding of products and practices to be able to apply in clinical practice.

Facilitators: Dr Deanne August + to be confirmed

Time: 8am - 1pm

Format: Didactic + practical stations

Room: Betbiyan 3

Limited to 60 participants

Nutrition and Feeding Workshop supported by Medela International

Title: **From first expression to first breastfeed and beyond: supporting breastfeeding in Neonatal Settings**

Synopsis: This workshop will provide an overview of the science of human lactation and breastfeeding, milk composition, and biopsychosocial factors that can interfere with milk production and breastfeeding. Practical evidence-based tips, tools and knowledge that neonatal nurses can easily implement in clinical practice will be shared. Topics will range from initiating lactation to optimising expressing and feeding of breast milk, to expectations and assessment of preterm breastfeeding skills. Whether you are new to supporting sick and preterm infants and their mothers on their breastfeeding journey, or this is a passion for you, this workshop will enhance your breastfeeding skills and knowledge through translation of the most current evidence.

Facilitators: Professor Donna Geddes and Dr Sharon Perrella

Time: 9 am to 12.30pm

Room: Bundirrik 4

Limited to 40 participants



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Advanced Practice Airway Management supported by the Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Special Interest Group

Title: Advanced Practice Airway Management - airway and respiratory stabilisation of a neonate.

Synopsis: "Most neonatal deaths (75%) occur during the first week of life, and about 1 million newborns die within the first 24 hours" and most who die, "suffer from conditions and diseases associated with lack of quality care at birth or skilled care and treatment immediately after birth and in the first days of life" (*World Health Organization, 2025*).

Neonatal stabilisation is the care provided to a newborn after birth, to ensure they transition well to extrauterine life. In all presentations of respiratory distress or cyanosis, prompt assessment and intervention are crucial. This workshop will aim to provide an overview and cover the essential components required to stabilise a neonate's airway and respiratory system, ensuring effective management to reduce the risk of morbidity and mortality, including assessment of the baby's condition, correct interpretation of investigations and necessary interventions like warmth, airway management, and breathing support.

Facilitators: Silvina Sissing (Victoria, AUS), Danielle Cook (Vic, AUS), Lorna Kerr (Vic, AUS), Joanne Scott (Vic, AUS), Miriam Long (SA, AUS), Jane Langford (Qld, AUS), Meg Murphy (Qld, AUS), Marsha Campbell-Yeo (USA), Wakako Eklund (USA)

Time: 1 to 4.30pm

Format: Didactic + practical stations

Room: Madla 2

Limited to 60 participants

Neurodevelopmental Care Workshop supported by NIDCAP Australia

Title: Supporting Growing Brains: Translating Neurodevelopmental Care into Practice.

Synopsis: Behind every monitor beep and medical procedure lies a baby experiencing the world for the very first time — a world that can be loud, bright, and confusing. This interactive workshop invites participants to pause, look closer, and rediscover the newborn as an active communicator, guiding us through their needs, strengths, and emotions. Together, we'll explore the infant and family experience of hospitalisation, the latest research in neurodevelopmental and relationship-based care, and practical ways to strengthen connection, attunement, and confidence for both infants and parents. Blending lived experience, clinical insight, and reflective discussion, this session promises to inform, inspire, and challenge how we think about care in the NICU.

Facilitators: Nadine Griffiths Senior NIDCAP Trainer, Dr Natalie Duffy NBO Trainer and Jess Banks NIDCAP Certified

Time: 1.30 - 5pm

Room: Betbiyan 3

Limited to 40 participants

Quality Improvement Initiatives in Neonatal Care Workshop supported by the Low Resource Countries Special Interest Group

Title: "Advancing Quality in Neonatal Care: How to get started... and maintain enthusiasm and perseverance in quality improvement".

Synopsis: This interactive workshop will provide participants with foundational knowledge and practical skills in preparing and undertaking a quality improvement (QI) project. Key QI frameworks and tools will be introduced to help identify quality problems, develop improvement plans and optimise teamwork and collaboration. Hands-on activities include practical exercises, case studies and small group discussions. Participants are invited to bring their idea of a QI project within their workplace to explore within the workshop.

Facilitators: Dr Kathryn Currow, Dr Karen New, Donna Hovey

Time: 1.30 to 3.30pm

Format: Didactic + practical brainstorming on project ideas

Room: Bundirrik 4

Limited to 40 participants



Welcome Reception (included in 3-day registration ticket; separate/additional tickets available)

6.30 – 8.30 pm

[Crococaurus Cove](#), allows visitors a unique, up close and personal view of Australia's iconic Saltwater Crocodiles and is a must-see attraction when visiting Darwin and the Top End. There is an opportunity to have a '[dive with a crocodile](#)' experience. Check out their website and book early as this experience is popular.

Wednesday 26th August 2026

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7.30 am to 5 pm	Registration desk open
Opening Plenary: Auditorium 2	
8.00 – 9.45 am	Welcome to Country - TBC
	ACNN President welcoming address - <i>Amy Curran</i>
	COINN President welcoming address - <i>Clinical Professor Karen Walker</i>
	Northern Territory Chief Nurse Midwifery Officer address - <i>Associate Professor Kellie Wilton</i>
	Scalable, evidence-based interventions for small and sick newborns - <i>Dr Queen Dube</i>
	Caring Beyond Borders: Neonatal Nurses Transforming Newborn Lives Globally - <i>Clinical Professor Karen Walker</i>
9.45 - 10.25 am	Morning Tea and Exhibition
Plenary 2: Auditorium 2	
10.25 – 12 md	Couple-relationship when starting parenthood in a neonatal unit - <i>Professor Renée Flacking</i>
	Principles of Early Relational Care in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit - <i>Dr Natalie Duffy</i>
	To be confirmed
12 – 1.00 pm	Lunch and Exhibition
12.10 – 12.55 pm	Boxed-lunch session (details to come)
Concurrent 1 1.30 - 3 pm	Auditorium 2: Lactation, Nutrition and Feeding Stream Initiating lactation for sick and preterm babies – <i>Professor Donna Geddes</i> Human milk as medicine in the neonatal nursery setting – <i>Dr Sharon Parella</i> <i>Free Abstracts</i>
Concurrent 2 1.30 - 3 pm	Damibila 1: Healthcare Worker Wellbeing and Workforce Development Stream Invited speaker and <i>Free Abstracts</i>
Concurrent 3 1.30 - 3 pm	Madla 2: Technology and Digital Health Stream Invited speaker and <i>Free Abstracts</i>
Concurrent 4 1.30 - 3 pm	Betbiyan 3: Clinical Case Studies Stream <i>Free Abstracts</i>
Concurrent 5 1.30 - 3 pm	Bundirrik 4: Outcome Measures Stream <i>Free Abstracts</i>
3 – 3.30 pm	Afternoon Tea and Exhibition
Plenary 3: Auditorium 2	
3.30 - 5 pm	Telehealth and Face-to-Face Volunteering Connecting, collaborating and building relationships between health professionals in low-resource settings and Australian Neonatal Nurses, Paediatric and Neonatal sub-specialists and healthcare professionals. <i>Dr Kathryn Currow, Hulita Siuhengalu, Donna Hovey, Komang Sri Mahawati, Miriam Long, Aloma Roa, Lyn Chapple</i>



Thursday 27th August 2026

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7.30 am to 5 pm	Registration desk open
Plenary 4: Auditorium 2	
8.15 - 9.45 am	Neonatal unit design and culture – short- and long-term impact on the family - <i>Professor Renée Flacking</i>
	Continuity, Connection, and Care: Supporting Vulnerable Infants and Families Through Developmental and Emotional Transitions – <i>Dr Nadine Griffiths</i>
	To be confirmed
9.45 - 10.25 am	Morning Tea and Exhibition
Concurrent 6 10.25 am - 12 md	Auditorium 2: Family-centered and Culturally Safe Care Stream The Parental Lived Experience of Neonatal Care – <i>Dr Natalie Duffy</i> Lived Experience Advisory Network (LEAN) – <i>Natalie Merida</i> <i>Free Abstracts</i>
Concurrent 7 10.25 am - 12 md	Damibila 1: Leadership and Advocacy Stream Strengthening neonatal nursing leadership to transform care in Africa - <i>Patrick Too</i> <i>Free Abstracts</i>
Concurrent 8 10.25 am - 12 md	Madla 2: Community of Neonatal Practice Stream <i>Free Abstracts</i>
Concurrent 9 10.25 am - 12 md	Betbiyan 3: Quality Improvement and Research Stream Reducing the Incidence of Infections in the Neonatal Care Unit at Dr. Cipto Mangunkusumo National General Hospital Indonesia: A Quality Improvement Project – <i>Novardian Aini</i> <i>Free Abstracts</i>
Concurrent 10 10.25 am - 12 md	Bundirrik 4: Multidisciplinary Collaborations in Care Stream <i>Neonatal care from far and wide in the Northern Territory</i> - <i>Suzanne Munro</i> <i>Free Abstracts</i>
12 - 1.00 pm	Lunch, Exhibition and Boxed-Lunch Session/s
12.10 - 12.55 pm	<i>Boxed-lunch session (details to come)</i>
1 - 2.15 pm	Poster Walks – structured presentation of posters
2.15 - 2.45 pm	Afternoon Tea and Exhibition
Plenary 5: Auditorium 2	
2.45 - 4.15 pm	Global Collaboration and Partnerships Details to come <i>Professor Karen Walker, Professor Carole Kenner</i>

Free Evening.

Recommended activity is to visit the [Mindil Beach Sunset Markets](#) open Thursday and Sunday evenings only from 4-9 pm. Great sunset over the water, street food options, local arts and crafts.



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Friday 28th August 2026

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7.30 am to 5 pm	Registration open
Plenary 6: Auditorium 2	
8.15 - 9.45 am	Challenges in the Top End: geography, retrievals and babies born too early. <i>Dr Mat Wong, Amanda, Darren and Sully Michin</i>
9.45 - 10.15 am	Morning Tea and Exhibition
Concurrent 11 10.15 - 11.45 am	Auditorium 2: Neonatal Nurse Advanced Practice stream The birth of a Neonatal Retrieval Service for the Northern Territory - <i>Suzanne Munro</i> <i>Free Abstracts</i>
Concurrent 12 10.15 - 11.45 am	Damibila 1: Environmental Health and Sustainability in Neonatal Care Stream 'Influencing Change in a Climate Emergency: an extension of care for newborns everywhere' - <i>Justine Parsons</i> <i>Free Abstracts</i>
Concurrent 13 10.15 - 11.45 am	Madla 2: Neurodevelopmental Care Practice Stream <i>Free Abstracts</i>
Concurrent 14 10.15 - 11.45 am	Betbiyan 3: Early Intervention and Long-term Outcomes Stream Long-term outcomes for babies born with a high chance of disability in a remote perinatal service in Northern Australia – <i>Dr Simone Martin</i> <i>Free Abstracts</i>
Concurrent 15 10.15 - 11.45 am	Bundirrik 4: Policy and Systems Change Stream <i>Free Abstracts</i>
11.45 am – 12.45 pm	Lunch and Exhibition
12.45 – 1.30 pm	Poster Walks – structured presentation of posters
Concurrent 16 1.30 to 2.30 pm	Auditorium 2: Ethical considerations and Redirection of Care Stream 7 rights of Children when needing vascular access – <i>Assistant Professor Agnes van den Hoogen</i> <i>Free Abstracts</i>
Concurrent 17 1.30 to 2.30 pm	Damibila 1: Education Curriculum and Career Development Stream Neonatal Standards and Tool Kits for Career Setting - <i>Justine Parsons</i> Evolution and Sustainability of Neonatal Nurse Practitioners in Australia – <i>Amy Curran</i> <i>Free Abstracts</i>
Concurrent 18 1.30 to 2.30 pm	Madla 2: Clinical Practice Improvement Stream Neonatal Nursing Care Bundle - from Evidence to Clinical Practice - <i>Adjunct Associate Professor Margaret Broome</i> <i>Free Abstracts</i>
Concurrent 19 1.30 to 2.30 pm	Betbiyan 3: Health and Social Challenges in Vulnerable Families Stream <i>Free Abstracts</i>
Concurrent 20 1.30 to 2.30 pm	Bundirrik 4: Discharge Planning and Community-Based Care Stream <i>Free Abstracts</i>
2.30 – 3.00 pm	Afternoon Tea and Exhibition
Closing Plenary: Auditorium 2	
3.00 – 3.25 pm	The long history of nursing care for extremely preterm infants in Japan – <i>Professor Miki Konishi</i>
3.25 – 3.50 pm	Innovation in Neonatal Stoma Management: Challenges, Inspirations and Success! – <i>Mackenzie Boundy</i>
3.50 – 4.20 pm	Shaping Tomorrow: Innovating, Influencing, and Inspiring the Future of Neonatal Nursing - <i>Assistant Professor Agnes van den Hoogen</i>
4.20 – 4.30 pm	Awards and Close
6 pm onwards	Conference Dinner



'Top End Tropical' Conference Farewell Dinner

6 pm onwards

Darwin is Australia's only tropical capital city! So, don something 'tropical' and farewell newfound friends, Darwin, the Northern Territory and Australia at the Darwin Sailing Club. Enjoy a 'territory sunset' with pre-dinner drinks, followed by a buffet dinner, drinks and dancing territory style! Book with your registration.



Conference Farewell Dinner

TOP END TROPICAL

Come dressed for the tropics, enjoy an Aussie BBQ with drinks and dance the evening away!

Friday 28th August
6 - 9 PM

Darwin Sailing Club
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL



COINN
Council of International Neonatal Nurses



**NORTHERN
TERRITORY**
BUSINESS EVENTS

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