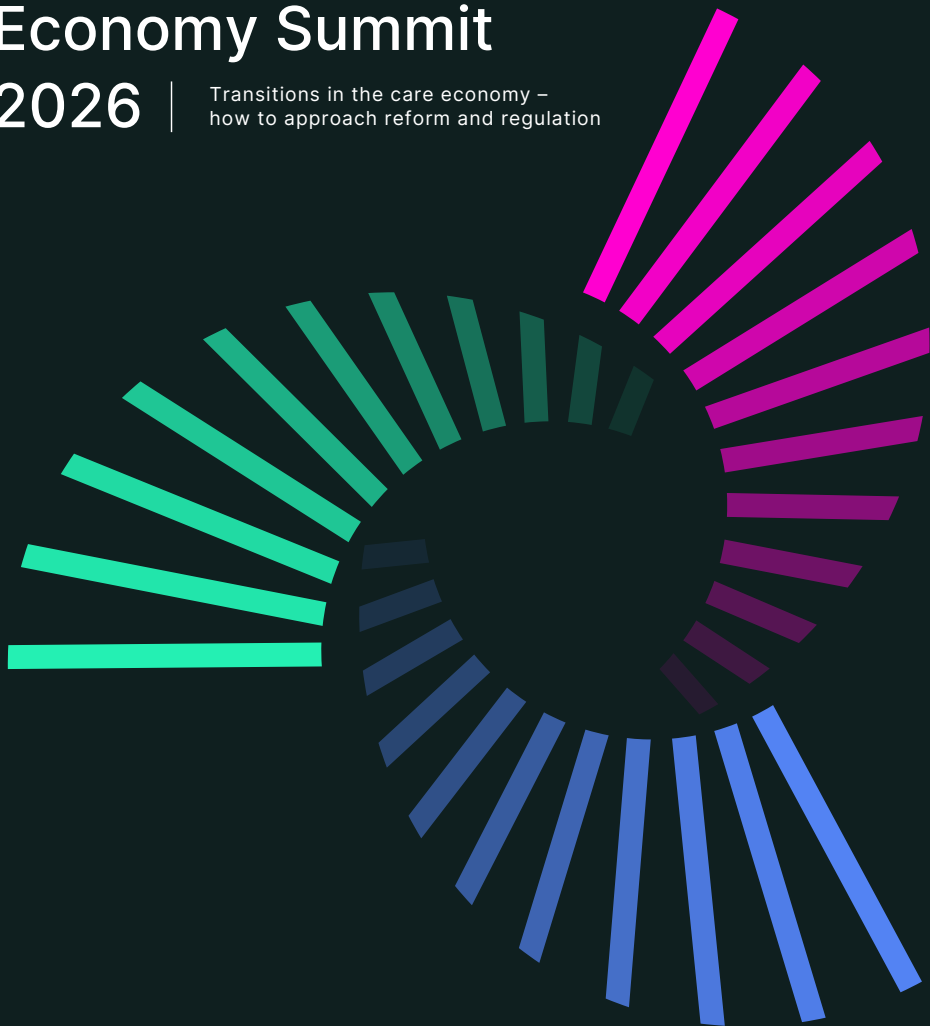


Evolution of the Care Economy Summit

2026

Transitions in the care economy –
how to approach reform and regulation



Event program

6 August 2026

The Refectory, Holme Building,
University of Sydney, Science Road
Camperdown NSW 2050



THE UNIVERSITY OF
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Introduction

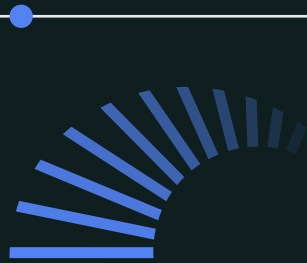
Bringing together leading experts from the health, aged care and disability sectors to explore key policy and research priorities for building an equitable and resilient care economy.

Gain valuable insights from industry leaders on topics such as:



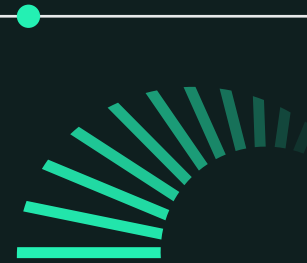
Canary in the coal mine: lessons from Canada on long stay patients

Learn about the Canadian health system's experience with long stay patients in hospitals, including how this reflects system pressures and affects funding and patient outcomes.



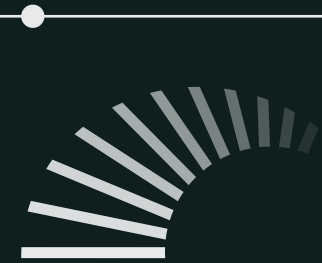
Transitions in hospital care systems

Explore whether hospital systems should continue to prioritise access and how they can transition to providing appropriate care at the right time to achieve high-value care.



Hospital to home: managing transitions in the English NHS

Examine the approaches the English National Health Service (NHS) has taken to improve transitions across hospitals, primary and aged care, and ongoing barriers to success.



Transitions through care systems

Consider what needs to change to enable faster, safer and more stable transitions to aged care and primary care in the community, and what a more integrated care sector could look like.

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we gather for the Evolution of the Care Economy Summit 2026, the Gadigal people of the Eora nation. We recognise their continuing connection to land, sea and community and we pay our respects to their Elders both past and present. We extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people attending this event.

Program

Thursday 6 August 2026

The Refectory, Holme Building, University of Sydney

8:30am – 9:30am	Registrations open
9:30am – 10:00am	Welcome to Country Introduction
10:00am – 10:15am	Opening address
10:15am – 11:15am	Presentation: Canary in the coal mine – lessons from Canada on long stay patients Professor Andrew Wilson , Co-Director, Leeder Centre for Health Policy, Economics and Data, University of Sydney
11:15am – 11:45am	Morning refreshments
11:45am – 12:45pm	Panel discussion: Transitions in hospital care systems Hospital systems remain focused on access - moving people quickly through assessment and referral pathways - and on ensuring sufficient hospital bed capacity. At the same time, there are calls for more care to be provided outside hospitals and for greater emphasis on early intervention. This panel will explore whether hospital systems should continue to prioritise access, and how they might transition to providing appropriate care at the right time in the right place whilst achieving high value care. • Dr Michael Wright, President, RACGP • Ms Miranda Shaw, General Manager, Sydney Virtual Hospital, NSW Health • Dr Shirley Bowen, Director General, WA Health • Professor Jason Sutherland, Director, Centre for Health Services and Policy, Research School of Population and Public Health, University of British Columbia, Vancouver
12:45pm – 1:45pm	Lunch
1:45pm – 2:45pm	Presentation: Hospital to home – managing transitions in the English NHS Dr Becks Fisher , Director of Research and Policy, Nuffield Trust (UK)

2:45pm – 3:00pm	Presentation: Long stay older patients – new insights and analysis Professor Kees van Gool , Health Economist, IHACPA and Professor of Health Policy and Systems, Leeder Centre for Health Policy, Economics and Data, University of Sydney Adjunct Associate Professor Sarah Neville , Executive Director, Pricing and Analytics, IHACPA
3:00pm – 4:00pm	Panel discussion: Transitions through care systems Care is often required beyond the decision to discharge from hospital care systems, yet limited attention is placed on the preventive actions needed for individuals to return to their homes and communities successfully and avoid related return admissions. Health and care systems often struggle to support people following an acute episode. This panel will consider what needs to change to make transitions to aged care and primary care in the community faster, safer, and more stable, and what a more integrated care sector could look like. • Associate Professor Carmen Huckel Schneider, Deputy Director, Leeder Centre for Health Policy, Economics and Data, University of Sydney • Dr Martin Laverty, Chief Executive Officer, Aruma • Dr Jono Hoogerbrug, Clinical Informatics Director, Health New Zealand and Board of Health Informatics New Zealand • Dr Becks Fisher, Director of Research and Policy, Nuffield Trust (UK)
4:00pm – 4:10pm	Break
4:10pm – 4:50pm	Panel discussion: Future reform, regulation, research and pricing session In the closing session, IHACPA will draw together the key themes and insights from the Evolution of the Care Economy discussions, reflecting on what we heard across the day and highlighting the implications for future reform, regulation and pricing across the care sectors. • Professor Michael Pervan, Chief Executive Officer, IHACPA • Professor Kees van Gool, Health Economist, IHACPA and Professor of Health Policy and Systems, Leeder Centre for Health Policy, Economics and Data, University of Sydney • Adjunct Associate Professor Sarah Neville, Executive Director, Pricing and Analytics, IHACPA • Distinguished Professor Jane Hall AO, Centre for Health Economics Research and Policy, University of Technology Sydney, Honorary Professor, Leeder Centre for Health Policy, Economics and Data, University of Sydney, IHACPA Pricing Authority member
4:50pm – 5:00pm	Summary and close
5:00pm – 6:00pm	Networking reception

Speakers



Master of Ceremonies

Millie Muroi

Millie Muroi is the economics writer at The Sydney Morning Herald and The Age, where she covers workplace relations and writes a weekly economics column. She has worked in Canberra's press gallery as an economics correspondent and in the Sydney newsroom as a banking and financial services reporter. She also worked as a graduate economist at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry WA.



Dr Becks Fisher

Dr Fisher is Director of Research and Policy at the Nuffield Trust, a leading United Kingdom health think tank, and works as a general practitioner in the National Health Service.

She is an experienced mixed-methods researcher and policy analyst with a strong interest in health system financing and policies that support high-quality primary care. Becks publishes and presents widely, sits on multiple national advisory committees and regularly contributes to print and broadcast media. She is also co-founder of Next Generation GP, a national leadership program for early-career general practitioners.

Becks has previously held roles as a Harkness Fellow in the United States, Senior Policy Fellow at the Health Foundation and Fellow at the University of Oxford. She is Honorary Professor of Health Policy and Primary Care at Queen Mary University of London and works to improve health and care in the United Kingdom through evidence led policy.



Professor Jason Sutherland

Professor Sutherland is Director of the Centre for Health Services and Policy Research and Professor of Health Services and Policy at the University of British Columbia's School of Population and Public Health.

He leads policy and health services research focused on health care funding and how health services contribute to variations in patients' health outcomes. Jason works closely with health services researchers, decision-makers and clinicians and regularly provides advice to provincial governments and Health Canada on health system funding policy.



Professor Kees van Gool

Professor van Gool is IHACPA's inaugural Health Economist. He is professor of health policy and systems at the Leeder Centre for Health Policy, Economics and Data, University of Sydney. Kees has extensive experience in international, national and regional health policy research. He has quantitative skills in micro-economic modelling and has established a strong track record in using linked data. Kees has previously worked at the University of Technology Sydney and the OECD.

Speakers



Adjunct Associate Professor Sarah Neville

Sarah Neville, Ph.D. is a Senior Harkness Fellow in Health Care Policy and Practice, spending twelve months at the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania in 2022–23. She is the Executive Director, Pricing and Analytics at IHACPA, and an adjunct Associate Professor at the Leeder Centre for Health Policy, Economics and Data at the University of Sydney. Sarah has worked in the Australian health system for over a decade, setting the price of hospital services to make hospital funding more transparent and equitable.

Sarah is passionate about the power of statistics to inform evidence-based policy, both in Australia and internationally. Her interests lie in health funding systems, particularly innovative funding models, as well as women in STEM leadership.



Associate Professor Carmen Huckel Schneider

Associate Professor Huckel Schneider is a health systems and governance researcher with over 15 years' experience in health systems research and education.

She is Deputy Director at the Leeder Centre for Health Policy, Economics and Data where she leads the Health Systems and Governance theme. Carmen is also a Senior Adviser at the Sax Institute and an Honorary Senior Fellow at the George Institute.



Distinguished Professor Jane Hall AO

Professor Hall is Distinguished Professor of Health Economics in the Business School at the University of Technology, Sydney.

She is a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia and of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences. Jane has worked across many areas of health economics, including funding and financing issues, and is a member of IHACPA's Pricing Authority.

She has experience across a range of health policy issues in Australia and internationally.



Dr Jono Hoogerbrug

Dr Hoogerbrug (MBChB, FRNZCGP, CHIA, Senior Harkness Fellow) is Clinical Informatics Director at Health New Zealand and an award-winning general practitioner with over a decade of clinical experience across primary care, secondary care, Primary Health Organisations, District Health Boards and the Ministry of Health.

His work spans frontline care in underserved communities and national leadership in quality, safety and digital health, giving him direct insight into Aotearoa New Zealand's health system reforms. At Health New Zealand, Jono supports a portfolio of more than 40 national products across screening, immunisation, primary care and public health response.

Jono's current work includes artificial intelligence governance and deployment, with published research on human-AI interaction in clinical settings. A Senior Harkness Fellow, he researched health care leadership and innovation at Stanford University. He also hosts Clinical Changemakers, a podcast featuring global health care leaders.

Speakers



Dr Martin Laverty

Dr Laverty is Chief Executive of not-for-profit disability organisation Aruma, one of Australia's largest National Disability Insurance Scheme providers.

He has previously held senior leadership roles as Secretary General of the Australian Medical Association, Chief Executive of the Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia and Chief Executive of Catholic Health Australia. Martin is a member of IHACPA's Aged Care Advisory Committee, a Board Director of international aid agency Caritas and a Council Member of the University of Canberra.

Martin has also served as a Board Director of the National Disability Insurance Agency, Health Direct and the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission, and as a Chair of the New South Wales Heart Foundation. He holds a doctorate focused on board director contributions to hospital and aged care outcomes.



Professor Michael Pervan

Professor Pervan is IHACPA's Chief Executive Officer. Prior to this appointment, Michael held positions as Secretary of the Departments of Health and Human Services, Natural Resources and Environment, and Communities Tasmania. He holds positions as Professor of Health Services, University of Tasmania and is a Fellow of the Australian College of Health Service Executives. Michael is a Churchill Fellow and was previously National Councillor at the Australian Health and Hospitals Association, and a board member of the Australian Health Care Reform Alliance. Michael is currently the co-chair of the Board of the Commonwealth Leadership Institute.

As Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services Tasmania, Michael was responsible for designing and implementing major health sector and organisational reforms. He has represented Western Australia and Tasmania at the Australian Health Ministers Advisory Council of which he was also a Chair, and has served on numerous national forums on health system reform, health workforce and mental health over the past 3 decades.



Dr Shirley Bowen

Dr Bowen is Director General of WA Health and a physician with extensive experience across all aspects of health service delivery. She is passionate about person-centred care and delivering excellent health care to the people of Western Australia.

Prior to her appointment as Director General in May 2024, Shirley served as Chief Executive of North Metropolitan Health Service and Chief Executive Officer of St John of God Subiaco Hospital.

Throughout her career, Shirley has demonstrated leadership across public and private health sectors, holding notable positions, including Chief Medical Officer of the Australian Capital Territory, Executive Director of Fremantle Hospital and Dean of the School of Medicine, University of Notre Dame Australia. In these roles, she advanced healthcare standards, fostered medical education and led innovative research and community services.



Professor Andrew Wilson

Professor Wilson is Co-Director of the Leeder Centre for Health Policy, Economics and Data in the School of Public Health at the University of Sydney. A public health physician, his career includes senior positions in the NSW and Queensland Health Department, and senior advisory roles to the Commonwealth Department of Health including as immediate past chair of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee.

Speakers



Ms Miranda Shaw

Ms Shaw is a New South Wales Health executive with more than 15 years' experience leading community-based health services.

As co-founder and General Manager of Australia's first virtual hospital, she has driven innovation in service design and delivery and helped shape strategy for virtual hospital care. Miranda holds a master's degree in health administration and is an Adjunct Senior Lecturer with the International Centre for Future Health Systems at the University of New South Wales.

Miranda has co-authored peer reviewed publications across a range of areas, including virtual hospitals and virtual care, sexual health and HIV, child and family health and COVID-19.



Dr Michael Wright

Dr Wright is a general practitioner, health economist and health services researcher based in Sydney, Australia. Michael combines clinical practice with strategic appointments and academic research analysing the effects of health policy on the quality and performance of primary care. Michael is the President of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP), Associate Professor at the International Centre for Future Health Systems at the University of New South Wales and is in clinical practice in Woollahra. Michael's previous appointments include Chief Medical Officer of Avant Mutual, Chair of RACGP's Reference Expert Committee on Funding and Health System Reform, and Board Chair of Central and Eastern Sydney Primary Health Network.

Leeder Centre for Health Policy, Economics and Data

University of Sydney



The Leeder Centre is a multidisciplinary research and education centre focused on improving the equity, effectiveness and efficiency of health systems in Australia and internationally.

The Centre contributes to evidence-based policymaking, health system reform and the advancement of public health knowledge through rigorous research, policy engagement, education and collaboration with government and health sector stakeholders.

Working across health economics, program evaluation, data analytics and health services research, the Centre partners with government, health services and research organisations to deliver practical, policy-relevant research. This includes work to develop culturally appropriate wellbeing measures for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Centre researchers have worked closely with Sydney local health district partners on a range of projects that explore different models of care. Evaluations of the Sydney Virtual Hospital found improved access, fewer hospital presentations and high patient satisfaction with virtual care. Work on NSW Health's Collaborative Commissioning initiative supports better integration between primary and hospital services. Research on emergency department to community care has also highlighted the role of multidisciplinary teams in supporting people with complex needs.

In 2023, IHACPA entered into a memorandum of understanding with the University of Sydney to support training and career pathways in health research and data analytics. This partnership established 2 National Industry PhD scholarships focused on virtual care funding and hospital efficiency.

The Centre also fosters knowledge exchange between academia, policy makers and practitioners through events and education programs, including a Master of Health Policy and Planning.

The Leeder Centre is pleased to host the Evolution of the Care Economy Summit 2026 and acknowledges IHACPA's generous support for the event.



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University of Sydney

Shape the future of health systems and policy

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Build a practical understanding of health systems and policy making, preparing you to contribute from day one.

- **Drive meaningful change**

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Study online or face to face

Contact: **Dr Gai Moore**
 Director, Master of Health Policy and Planning
 E: gabriel.moore@sydney.edu.au



About IHACPA

IHACPA is an independent government agency that assists the Australian Government to fund hospital and aged care services more efficiently by providing evidence-based price determinations and pricing advice.

Our purpose

We use evidence to make fair and equitable decisions that drive efficiency and promote better value, and higher quality care services.

Our vision

A sustainable Australian care system that is accessible, resilient and delivers quality care outcomes for everyone.

Our values

Our values have been shaped by our staff to reflect the shared mindsets and behaviours that are unique to IHACPA:



Inclusive

We work better together



Trustworthy

Integrity defines us



Curious

Innovation drives us forward

Our program of work

We deliver an annual program of work through consultation and collaboration with the Australian Government, state and territory governments, advisory committees, key stakeholders and the public.

Our main activities include:

- ✓ developing national classifications for healthcare and other services delivered by public hospitals
- ✓ undertaking work to inform the annual determination of the national efficient price and national efficient cost, including ongoing consultation with all Australian health departments, expert advisory committees and key stakeholders
- ✓ providing evidence-based residential aged care, residential respite care and in-home aged care pricing and costing advice to government
- ✓ refundable accommodation deposit approvals
- ✓ resolving cost-shifting and cross-border disputes upon request by a health minister.



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