

## Best of the best in health booked for Brisbane— World Hospital Congress comes down under

13 March 2018

‘Having the 42<sup>nd</sup> World Hospital Congress awarded to Australia was a real coup and a vote of confidence in our health system’, said Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association (AHHA) Chief Executive Alison Verhoeven when previewing the Congress’ line-up of world renowned keynote speakers.

‘We are offering Australian health leaders a once-in-20-year-event on their doorstep, and we are offering international health leaders a once-in-20-year professional reason to visit our great country.

‘The Congress’ theme, *Innovate, Integrate, Inspire—How can healthcare evolve to meet 21st century demands?*, addresses a series of wicked problems all health systems around the world are trying to deal with.

‘Across the Congress’ three days, we are talking about value; we are talking about patients being at the centre rather than service providers; we are talking about integrated care to cope with multiple and complex chronic conditions, and finite resources; and we are talking about the best use of data and technology in terms of making the right health system decisions.’

The 42<sup>nd</sup> World Hospital Congress keynote speakers include:

- Stanford University clinical professor and Forbes Magazine contributor [Dr Robert Pearl](#)
- #hellomynameis movement co-founder [Chris Pointon](#)
- Nuffield Trust Chief Executive [Nigel Edwards](#)
- Patient Advocate [Melissa Thomason](#)
- University of Queensland’s [Professor Claire Jackson](#)
- Vision Australia General Manager Advocacy and Engagement [Dr Karen Knight](#)
- Australian Institute of Health Innovation Foundation Director [Professor Jeffrey Braithwaite](#)

‘Each of these speakers exemplifies our program themes *Innovate, Integrate, Inspire*; and our commitment to a health system where patients are at the centre, and value is the goal’, said Ms Verhoeven.

**Melissa Thomason** serves on the Board of Directors for the American Board of Family Medicine, on Patient and Family Advisory Councils in North Carolina and on working groups around the country. She is a remarkably passionate advocate who has shared her story with thousands of healthcare workers around the world and who has made the vital work of patient-centered care her life’s mission.

**Professor Jeffrey Braithwaite** researches healthcare as a complex adaptive system and applies complexity science to healthcare problems such as patient safety and implementation. He has received 39 different national and international awards for his teaching and research, and he is a board member of the International Society for Quality in Health Care.

‘Previously announced speakers Nigel Edwards, Chris Pointon, Claire Jackson and Robert Pearl will bring international perspectives on approaches to health service transformation and compassionate care, which exemplifies our program themes, *Innovate, Integrate, Inspire*, and our commitment to a health system where patients are at the centre and value is the goal,’ says Ms Verhoeven.

Visit [www.hospitalcongress2018.com](http://www.hospitalcongress2018.com) to watch as we announce [more speakers](#) throughout March and to register for a once-in-20-year opportunity to engage with the best minds in health.

*The 42nd World Hospital Congress takes place 10 to 12 October 2018 in Brisbane, presented by the Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association in partnership with the International Hospital Federation and Queensland Health’s Clinical Excellence Division.*

For more information on the AHHA, visit <http://ahha.asn.au>. This media release is available [online](#).

**The Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association is the national peak body for public and not-for-profit hospitals, and community and primary healthcare services.**