

Regional Medical Specialists Association Conference Program

Conference Partners



Hosted by



WELCOME

Toowoomba & Surat Basin Enterprise (TSBE) is a not-for profit, independent economic development organisation. TSBE Health has been established to grow the economy by supporting the healthcare sector in the Darling Downs, with its strategic pillars including patient retention, workforce development, innovation, research and community wellness. These pillars are directly and indirectly aligned to the vision of the Regional Medical Specialists Association, and by attracting medical specialists to Regional Australia and achieving the strategic pillars of TSBE health not only will deliver better health outcomes that will save lives in regional Australia, but will assist in growing the local economies. It is for this reason that TSBE Health has partnered with the Regional Medical Specialists Association (RMSA) to host this National Conference.

RMSA was formed in 2018 and aims to address workforce mal-distribution, supporting and ecomplementing existing strategies to recruit medical specialists to regional areas. This unique association allows medical specialists from a wide variety of disciplines across regional Australia to connect with each other.

The RMSA National Conference aims to bring together medical specialists from around Australia to investigate how to attract more medical specialists to regional Australia. It will provide an opportunity for industry to learn and to improve the way medical specialists are recruited to regional Australia.

Friday, 24 May - Welcome drinks and networking - Gip's Restaurant, Toowoomba QLD 4350

5:30pm - 8:00pm

Saturday, 25 May - Dinner Event - Burke & Wills Hotel, Toowoomba QLD 4350

7:00pm - 10:00pm

Sunday, 26 May - BBQ Breakfast - TSBE Office, Toowoomba QLD 4350

10:00am - 11:30am

Conference Partners



Hosted by



PROGRAM OUTLINE - Saturday 25 May

Saturday, May 25 - Burke & Wills Hotel Toowoomba		
8:00 am	Registration	
8:30 am	RMSA President & MC welcome	Dr Peter Hughes, Canberra and Dr Rob Gray, Toowoomba
8:50 am	TSBE Health TSBE approach to rural health development	Jaden Frame, General Manager, TSBE Health Toowoomba
9:00am	Mayoral Welcome	Cr Paul Antonio, Mayor, Toowoomba Regional Council
9:10 am	Video conference - A Territory specialist workforce perspective	Dr Simon Quilty, Northern Territory
9:40 am	CEO perspective on recruiting	Ray Fairweather, CEO, St Andrew's Hospital Toowoomba
9:55am	CEO perspective on recruiting	Kathryn McKeefry, CEO, St Vincent's Private Hospital Toowoomba
10:10am	Grow your own herd - Rural Clinical Schools are Primary Producers helping build the rural and regional medical workforce Regional Training Hubs in relation to the recruitment and retention of the rural and remote medical workforce in Australia	Dr George Tucker, Director, UQ Rural Clinical School and Dr Thomas Doolan, Regional Training Hubs Senior Academic
10:25am	Morning tea	
10:40am	Presentation - Lessons learnt from trying to strengthen the radiologist & medical specialist workforce in Wagga Wagga & other non-metropolitan centres	Dr Nick Stephenson, Wagga Wagga
11:10am	Presentation - Paediatrics and Neonatology in Bathurst	Dr Samridh Nagar, Bathurst
11:40am	Presentation - Progress report on the Rural Context Training Program	Dr Steve Flecknoe-Brown, Bundaberg
12:10pm	Presentation - Regional Obstetric Challenges A Queensland perspective	Dr David Chettle, Toowoomba
12:40pm	Lunch	
1:10pm	Panel: "Interview with a Subspecialist"	Dr Henry Hook, Orange , and Dr Neil Wylie, Toowoomba
1:40pm	Presentation - Delivering world class cancer care in Regional Australia	Anthony Reckin, Icon Group, Brisbane
1:55pm	Presentation - Halcyon Radiation Treatment System - State of the art treatment for Regional areas	Dr Kumar Gogna, Greenslopes
2:10pm	Presentation - Challenge of Regional Nephrology Service	Dr Shahadat Hossain, Bundaberg
2:40pm	Presentation - The Essential Role of Regional Hospitals in Rural Generalist Practice	Dr John Hall, Oakey
3:20pm	Afternoon tea	
3:40pm	A Panel Discussion: Women in Regional Medicine	Dr Sarah Gleeson, Dr Natacha Sorour, and Dr Gilda Kert, Toowoomba
4:10pm	Presentation - A non-profit private hospital built by doctors: further developments	Dr Peter Hughes
4:30pm	Closing Address	Jaden Frame, General Manager, TSBE Health
4:40pm	RMSA - AGM	Dr Peter Hughes

SPEAKERS



Jaden Frame,
Toowoomba

Jaden is the General Manager for TSBE Health and brings a unique mix of health, finance and business skills to the role. Prior to establishing TSBE Health Jaden spent eight years as the General Manager for Wise Therapy and was Managing Director of Livewell Australia. Jaden grew these businesses considerably, attracted interest from an equity group and subsequently sold the business in 2017. His time at Wise Therapy and Livewell Australia allowed him to develop a strong network within the Toowoomba health community and gave him a unique insight into the opportunities and challenges within the industry. Jaden also spent more than a decade in the commercial banking sector. Jaden holds a Bachelor of Agricultural Economics, a Masters of Business Administration and is a Fellow of the Institute of Managers and Leaders.



Dr Rob Gray,
Toowoomba

MBBS (Hons I) FANZCA AFRACMA PGDipEcho

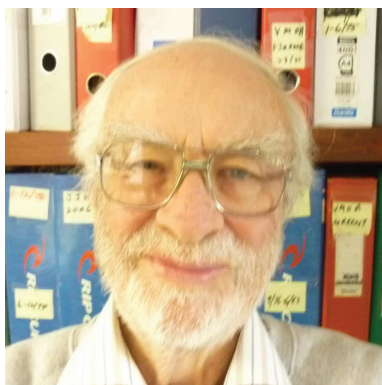
Rob has been an Anaesthetist since 2004. He graduated from the University of Queensland in 1993 and undertook speciality training in Queensland and Scotland. He has a postgraduate diploma from the University of Melbourne in perioperative ultrasound and maintains an interest in regional anaesthesia, adult, paediatric and obstetric anaesthesia. Rob does volunteer aid work in developing countries in the Pacific. He has an Associate Fellowship in medical administration and recently took on the role of Chief Medical Officer of St Vincent's Private Hospital in Toowoomba. In his spare time, Rob enjoys (to varying extents) boating, fishing and organising conferences.



Cr Paul Antonio,
Toowoomba

Toowoomba Regional Council Mayor Paul Antonio has been Mayor of the region since 2012. Bringing more than 30 years of local government experience to the role, Paul was previously the Deputy Mayor of the Toowoomba Regional Council in its first amalgamated term, and Mayor of Millmerran Shire Council for eight years, having served continuously on Council from 1982-2008.

As Mayor of one of Australia's most family friendly cities, Paul leads the region at a time of intense growth and development.



**Dr Peter Hughes,
Canberra**

Peter Hughes was born in Wagga Wagga attending a one-room one-teacher primary school on the family farm in Junee Reefs.

Peter completed his medical degree at Sydney University, after which in 1956 he spent 6 years in England, training in general surgery and then urology. He started his urology practice in Canberra in 1962 and worked in public and private hospitals until 2008. In 1965 he and Dr Bill Ferguson started the Provincial Surgeons Association and held its first meeting in Shepparton. In the same year Peter lead colleagues in planning then building the non-profit John James Memorial Private Hospital, which opened in 1970 and is still going.

In 1972 and 1974 he stood unsuccessfully as the Liberal Party candidate for a federal ACT seat. In 1974 he was elected to the ACT Legislative Assembly and there lead the Liberal Party for 3 years. He was a member of the leadership team in medical strikes in Canberra in 1984, 1987 and 1993, resulting in a very good VMO contract. In 2012 he published a 600-page book entitled "Medical and Party Politics".



**Dr Simon Quilty, Northern
Territory**

Dr. Simon Quilty is a General Physician who, in 2012, took on the trailblazing role of stabilising Katherine Hospital and was the first specialist in the NT to be based remotely. Until that time the hospital had shaky foundations, and Simon recognised the opportunity of utilising such well-placed infrastructure to provide high-quality health care to remote living people. He has developed an award winning service, with reduction in aeromedical retrievals by 45% saving an estimated \$2million and 2,000 tertiary hospital bed-days per year, improved engagement with Aboriginal patients, and developed a comprehensive model outreach service. The hospital is now a remote training hub teaching young doctors to think outside the square. He is currently on sabbatical in London, working with academics at UCL in the Institute for Global Health, developing algorithms to quantify and predict adverse political environments in the development of healthcare innovation in low resource settings.



**Ray Fairweather,
Toowoomba**

Ray Fairweather commenced his career in health service management in January 1972 at Inverell District Hospital in northern NSW. His career has included executive roles in health service management covering both public and private sector positions. He was served as a member of the Senior Executive Service of NSW Health occupying the position of Chief Executive Officer of the Macquarie Area Health Service based in Dubbo in Western NSW.

Since joining St Andrew's Hospital in 2000, it has experienced extensive growth over the last 19-years. The hospital has established the largest regional cancer care centre in Australia, expanded cardiology services to include 24/7 STEMI services, introduced laparoscopy robotic surgery, opened the Regional's first Rapid Access Heart Centre. The hospital will soon be the first hospital in the South-East Asian and Pacific Region to introduce the Philips TASY Electronic Medical Record (EMR) and health information system.

Ray holds tertiary qualifications in health service management and is an Associate Fellow of the Australian College of Health Service Management (AFACHSM) and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management (FAIM).



SPEAKERS



**Kathryn McKeefry,
Toowoomba**

Kathryn is currently serving as the Chief Executive Officer for St Vincent's Private Hospital in Toowoomba. After leaving school, she trained as a registered nurse and worked in the field of Intensive care nursing in New Zealand, USA, Europe and Britain, before returning to New Zealand and completing Midwifery training.

Kathryn then practiced for ten years in this role. From here Kathryn moved into administration and completed her MBS. Kathryn moved to Australia in 2009 to work in senior health roles in both Brisbane and Sydney before taking up the role CEO at St Vincent's Private Hospital in Toowoomba.



**Dr Nick Stephenson,
Wagga Wagga**

Born and raised in Bathurst. Nick underwent Radiology training in Canberra, Melbourne and overseas. He is a multi-specialty Radiologist in Wagga Wagga since 1996, including some interventional radiology. His areas of interest are Body, Paediatric and Women's imaging.

Preferentially supporting people, events and organisations that strengthen regional and rural centres, Nick's particular interest is in medical specialist workforce development. He is Chair of the Riverina Medical Specialist Recruitment & Retention Committee, Rural Medical School Implementation Committee of Wagga Wagga, Regional Imaging Cardiovascular Centre Medical Affairs Committee.

He is past Chair of the RANZCR Clinical Radiologist Workforce Committee. Having been active in RANZCR activities since a student member, including ensuring that all RANZCR committees and policies consider their effect on the rural-metropolitan workforce maldistribution. Nick started at the Wagga Wagga Base Hospital Radiology RMO position and the private sector Radiology Accredited Trainee position. He is currently active in undergraduate teaching.



**Dr Samridh Nagar,
Bathurst**

Samridh Nagar is a dual trained paediatrician currently working at the Bathurst Base Hospital (General paediatrician and Neonatologist) with extensive work and training experience both overseas and in Australia.

He has been working as staff specialist in a regional centre for the last 4 years and understands the challenges and complexities of working in a regional centre.

His areas of interest include teaching neonatal resuscitation, neurobehavioural paediatrics and focus on addressing the gaps (regional/rural specific) in education, guidelines and practices with a goal to provide excellent paediatric care .

Samridh's qualifications include MBBS MD (Paed) DNB (Paed); FRACP (Neonatal medicine); FRACP (General Paed), MPH.



**Dr Steve Flecknoe-Brown,
Bundaberg**

Associate Professor Steve Flecknoe-Brown was born in central Sydney and moved to Melbourne with his family late in Primary School. Thus his High School and Medical Schooling were in Melbourne, being a part of Monash University Faculty of Medicine's eighth intake. He returned to Sydney's Royal Prince Alfred Hospital for his postgraduate training, finishing off specialist haematology at the UCLA Center for the Health Sciences in California.

From 1982 to 1998 he worked in private laboratory and clinical haematology practice on Sydney's North Shore until taking the leap into rural medicine. Sixteen years of General Medicine, teaching and governance experience followed at Broken Hill.

For the last three years Steve has worked in Bundaberg as the District Director of Clinical Training for the health service and Senior Academic Clinician for the Wide Bay Regional Training Hub. He maintains a small consultant clinical practice in Bundaberg.



**Dr David Chettle,
Toowoomba**

David Chettle is a Queensland trained fellow of the RANZCOG. He made the decision to leave public practice to set up Evolve Women's Health in Toowoomba in 2018. His practice has rapidly grown to incorporate another specialist at the start of 2019.

David is passionate about women's health – in particular regional/rural women being given access to high level specialist care outside of the capital city. He specialises in high risk obstetrics, general gynaecology and advanced laparoscopic surgery



**Dr Henry Hook,
Orange**

Dr Hook is a general surgeon based in Orange NSW. He completed his general surgical fellowship in Sydney with a large portion of his training centered in upper GI surgery and at the end of his training was awarded a Tyco travelling fellowship. He was the Lister fellow at the West of Scotland Pancreatic unit at the Royal Infirmary Glasgow in 2004/5. Upon returning to Australia he decided to take up practicing in a regional centre with a view to providing subspecialty care to rural and remote patients.

During his time in Orange he has developed both the ASU unit for the general surgical department and also a hub and spoke model of care for complex upper GI cancer resections whereby patients have their resections locally with a two surgeon model. Henry also provides a comprehensive therapeutic endoscopy service for the Local Health District including ERCP. The Orange Health Service case series of percutaneous necrosectomy for infected pancreatic necrosis is one of the largest in NSW and he has presented both locally and internationally on this topic. He has written a chapter on the management of severe acute pancreatitis for the publication Recent Advances Series in the UK.



SPEAKERS



**Dr Neil Wylie,
Toowoomba**

Dr Neil Wylie is a General Surgeon with a subspecialty interest in complex hepatobiliary, pancreas and obesity surgery.

He is delighted to be returning home to South East Queensland where he completed all of his medical and surgical training. Dr Wylie will be joining General Surgeons Dr Scott Mansfield and Dr Tim Porter in private practice at St Andrew's Hospital.

Since completing his General Surgical Fellowship with the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in 2013, Dr Wylie has undertaken extensive Post Fellowship training. This has included a two year Hepatobiliary and Pancreatic Fellowship with 12 months training in the management of benign and malignant Upper GI and HPB conditions in Auckland, New Zealand and 12 months subspecialising in liver resection and transplant surgery at St James University Hospital, Leeds, UK. Dr Wylie's final year of his Post Fellowship training was recently undertaken in the Pancreas Unit at St James University Hospital, followed by benign UGI surgery training in Belgium.



**Anthony Reckin,
Brisbane**

Anthony Reckin has been working in Senior Management roles in Healthcare in Australia for the past 20 years. Before starting with Icon he worked in primary health, skin cancer clinics and sexual health and reproductive health clinics.

For the past 3 years Anthony has been working as the State Manager in Queensland for the ICON Cancer Care network. He is responsible for 10 clinics with over 250 staff from Cairns to the Gold Coast. He has doubled this portfolio in size and reach in that time. Anthony is very passionate about being able to deliver the best care possible, to as many people as possible, as close to home as possible.



**Dr Kumar Gogna,
Greenslopes**

Associate Professor N. Kumar Gogna is a senior radiation oncologist at Radiation Oncology Centres Greenslopes, Redland and Springfield. Dr Gogna trained as a radiation oncologist at the St Vincent's Hospital in Sydney and for the last 20 years has been based at the Radiation Oncology Mater Centre in Brisbane.

Dr Gogna is one of the founding directors of the Radiation Oncology Queensland at St Andrew's Hospital in Toowoomba. He is vastly experienced and has special interests in the treatment of prostate and bladder cancers, head and neck tumours and lymphomas, with expertise in seed implant therapy for the management of early stage prostate cancer and was instrumental in setting up the first seed brachytherapy programme in Queensland.

He is actively involved in research activities through the Trans Tasman Radiation Oncology Group (TROG) in Australia and is currently involved in the teaching and mentoring of trainee registrars in radiation oncology. Dr Gogna is both an examiner in pathology for the Part II of the fellowship examination and was previously a member of the executive board of the Faculty of Radiation Oncology with the Royal Australia and New Zealand College of Radiologists (RANZCR).



**Dr Shahadat Hossain,
Bundaberg**

Dr Shahadat graduated in medicine from University of Dhaka, Bangladesh. He then worked as RMO and medical Registrar in Hospitals in New Zealand from 2001 to 2009 before completing FRACP examination and moving to Australia.

Dr Shahadat then trained in Nephrology and Renal transplant medicine in Canberra Hospital, ACT and John Hunter hospital, NSW.

He continued to work as part time Nephrologist in Canberra Hospital and VMO in Calvary hospital, from 2014 to 2015 before moving to Bundaberg to start work as a Staff Nephrologist in Wide bay HHS towards the end of 2015.

Dr Shahadat is happily married with two sons living in Bundaberg.



**Dr John Hall,
Oakey**

John graduated from UQ in 2000 and completed his internship and junior doctor years in Rockhampton. He continued his training in Mackay completing an Advanced Diploma in Obstetrics in 2003. He began his rural medical career in Stanthorpe as a full time SMO, working as a Rural Generalist GP Obstetrician.

In 2006 he became a fellow of the RACGP and ACRRM. He then moved to Oakey to become the Medical Superintendent of the local Hospital and the President of RDAQ. John has remained active in the medico-political space sitting on the council of AMAQ and RDAA board for many years. He is the current president-elect of RDAA. John is a senior lecturer in Rural Medicine at the university of QLD.

He has been heavily involved in rural medical education for over 15 years. In these roles, he has had a keen interest in rural health and has been a passionate advocate for Private General Practice, Rural Hospitals and Maternity services.



**Dr Sarah Gleeson,
Toowoomba**

Dr Sarah Gleeson is a Respiratory and Sleep Physician. Her areas of interest include airways disease including COPD and asthma, emphysema, interstitial lung diseases, bronchiectasis, pneumonia and other pulmonary infections. Dr Gleeson has experience with a range of sleep conditions including obstructive sleep apnoea and more complex disorders including obesity hypoventilation syndrome, respiratory failure, narcolepsy and respiratory muscle weakness.

Since attaining Fellowship with the Royal Australasian College of Physicians in 2016, Dr Gleeson has been working on the Sunshine Coast as a Respiratory and Sleep Physician. She continues with academic and research pursuits, with ongoing activity including a Masters Degree in Clinical Sleep Medicine. She is delighted to be returning home to Toowoomba after completing specialist training in Brisbane Tertiary Hospitals. Dr Gleeson undertook her advanced training in Respiratory and Sleep Medicine at the Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane and has most recently completed her Sleep Fellowship at Greenslopes Private Hospital.



SPEAKERS



**Dr Gilda Kert,
Toowoomba**

Dr Kert graduated from the University of Queensland Medical School in 1994. She worked in Townsville and Mt Isa as a junior doctor before travelling overseas to the United Kingdom for further experience in ophthalmology, gaining ophthalmic experience working in the Eye Departments at Singleton Hospital, Swansea (Wales) and the Royal Free Hospital (London).

Dr Kert commenced her formal eye training at the Sydney Eye Hospital in 1999. Later completing her fellowship at the Western Sydney Eye Hospital, Westmead with subspecialty experience in Oculoplastics and Medical Retina. Returning to Brisbane in 2002, she commenced private practice at the Terrace Eye Centre, Brisbane City for several years. In 2008 Dr Kert relocated with her family and husband to Toowoomba where she established her practice, Darling Downs Eye.

Dr Kert is well known in the region as she regularly travelled to Roma for many years, and spending some of her formative years in Stanthorpe where she attended Stanthorpe State High School. Dr Kert is a general ophthalmologist with areas of interest including complicated cataract surgery and the treatment of macular diseases including diabetic eye disease and macular degeneration.



**Dr Natacha Sorour,
Toowoomba**

Dr Sorour trained as a General Physician in South Africa and emigrated to Australia in 1996. She subsequently completed further training here and achieved Fellowship of the Royal Australian College of Physicians in 1997.

She worked as a Consultant General Physician in Toowoomba for 10 years during which time she developed a keen interest in Oncology, studying further to gain her Medical Oncology Fellowship in 2009.

As the Director of Medical Oncology at Toowoomba Hospital from 2009 until 2016, she expanded the cancer care services in public by developing the Toowoomba Regional Cancer centre at Toowoomba Hospital.

She commenced in Private Practice in Toowoomba in 2013 and now works full-time in private at Toowoomba Oncology based at St Andrews Hospital, and continues to work to build our regional cancer services for all patients.



**Associate Professor
Thomas Doolan, Dr
George Tucker OAM**

Associate Professor Tom Doolan MBBS (Qld), FACRRM, FRACGP, is the Senior Academic Clinician for the University of Queensland, Regional Training Hub, Southern Queensland. He has been practising rural medicine at Kilcoy in Queensland for 40 years. Tom is currently the Chair of the RVTS Board. He was Chairman of the RDAA Taskforce for the establishment of ACRRM, and Honorary Director of Education of ACRRM from its inception in 1997 to 2011, and currently Chairs its Education and Training Committee. In recognition of his service to rural medicine Tom was awarded the Life Fellowship Award ACRRM 2009 and the Rural Icon Award RDAQ 2014. Tom is also currently Associate Professor, Rural Clinical School, University of Queensland.

Dr George Tucker OAM, MBBS (Qld), FRACP is the Director of The University of Queensland Rural Clinical School Toowoomba. After graduation from UQ George's physician training path took him via Rockhampton, Brisbane and Edinburgh to Toowoomba where he practised as a General Physician from 1982 to 2017. A six month secondment to Toowoomba Hospital during his Royal Brisbane registrar time was pivotal in his decision to practise in Toowoomba and since then he has been an advocate for rural and regional experience during training. He has served on various professional and community committees and was chairperson of fund-raising to build the Toowoomba Hospice.



Supporting rural intent to become a reality

The University of Queensland (UQ) **Regional Training Hubs** build on the existing investment in rural training for medical students and seek to strengthen access to careers for rural generalists and regional specialists.

The Regional Training Hubs are continually strengthening partnerships with our public and private hospital and health services to work towards our common goal of building our regions medical training capacity.

Once you've made the decision to "go rural" we are here to help you build and map your rural career pathway so you can complete as much of your medical training as possible in rural and regional Queensland.

If you are interested in finding out how we can assist you, please contact us for more information:

Central Queensland

T (07) 4999 2999
E rthcq@uq.edu.au

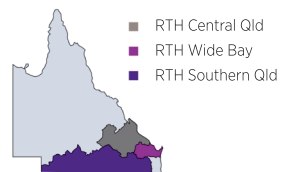
Wide Bay

T (07) 4130 1900
E rthwb@uq.edu.au

Southern Queensland

T (07) 4633 9700
E rthsq@uq.edu.au

Regional Training Hubs



CREATE CHANGE



NEW CT TECHNOLOGY NOW AT ST VINCENT'S HOSPITAL TOowoomba

- Stand out in Cardiac CT
- Fast, reliable scanning in Oncology
- Advances in Vascular Imaging
- Precision Orthopaedic Imaging

For your patient images and reports call 1800 779 977
OR sign up online at qldxray.com.au

St Vincent's Hospital
Scott St
Toowoomba
Ph: 4659 4500

Russell Street
127 Russell St
Toowoomba
Ph: 4690 3300

St Andrew's Hospital
280 North St
Toowoomba
Ph: 4633 6888

Medici Medical Centre
13-15 Scott St
Toowoomba
Ph: 4659 4540

Warwick
51 Wood St
Warwick
Ph: 4660 2800

qldxray.com.au

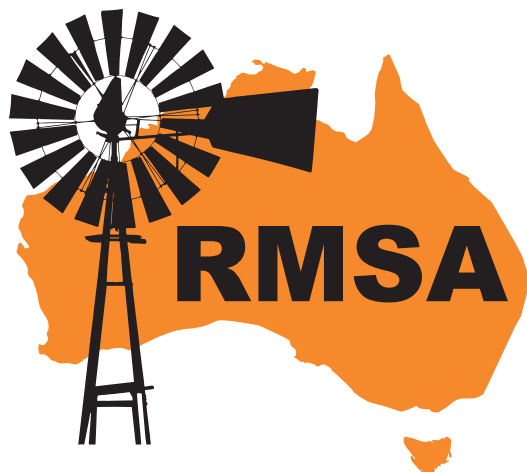


ST VINCENT'S
PRIVATE HOSPITAL
TOOWOOMBA

A FACILITY OF ST VINCENT'S HEALTH AUSTRALIA



*Excellence in
care & service*



**WE STAND FOR
SPECIALISTS CARING
FOR REGIONAL
AUSTRALIA**

WWW.RMSA-AU.ORG

Conference Partners



ST VINCENT'S
PRIVATE HOSPITAL
TOOWOOMBA

A FACILITY OF ST VINCENT'S HEALTH AUSTRALIA



Hosted by

Jaden Frame
TSBE Health General Manager
P: (07) 4639 4600
E: jaden@tsbe.com.au

