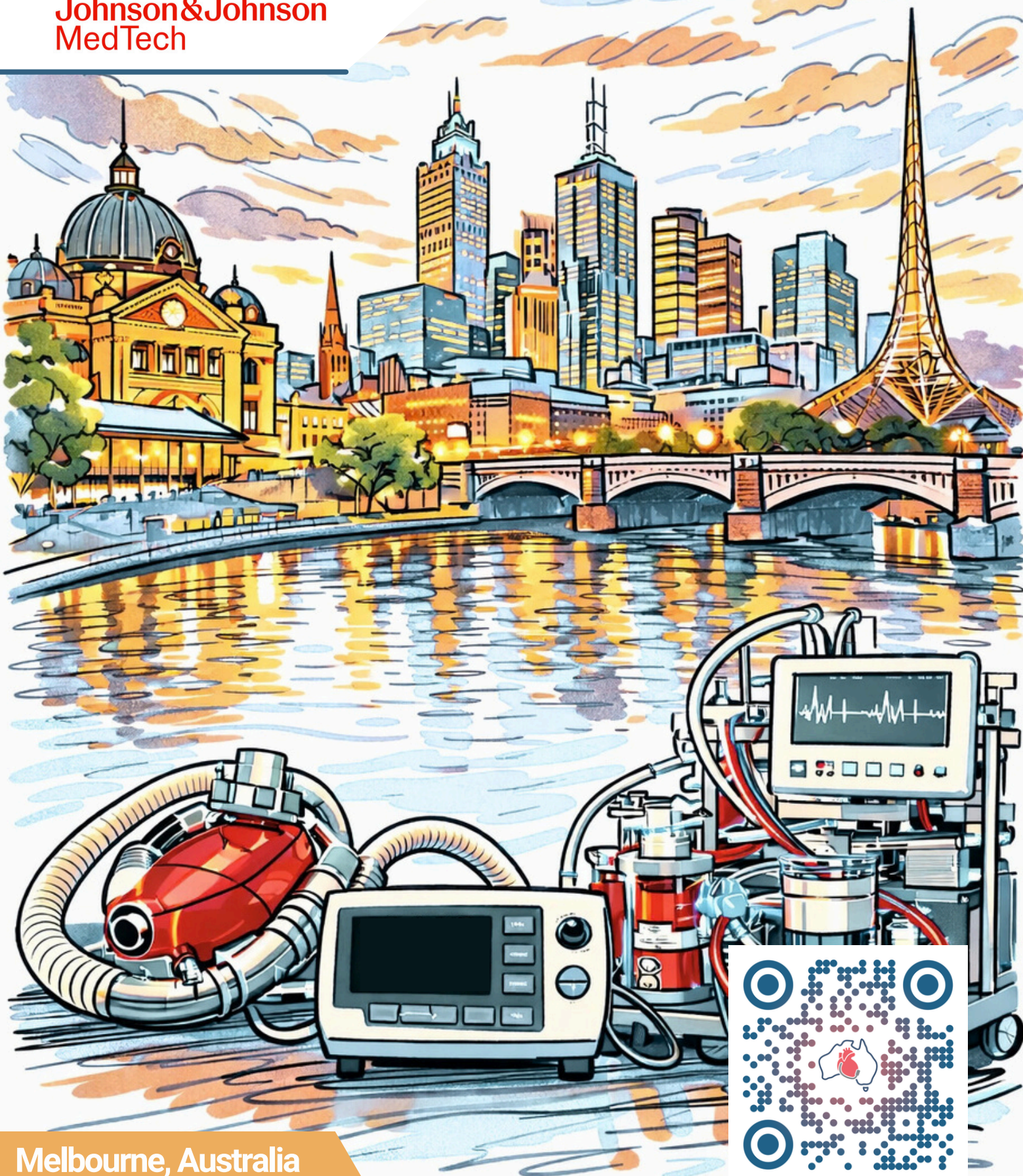


AUSTRALIAN MCS SYMPOSIUM 2026 ausmcs.org

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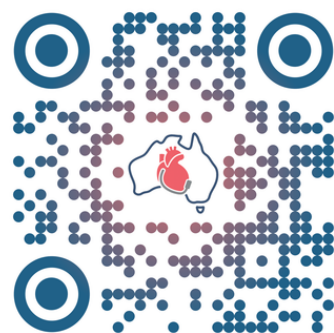
**Johnson & Johnson
MedTech**



Melbourne, Australia

23-25, November, 2026

Australian Mechanical Circulatory Support Symposium



**REGISTRATIONS
OPEN NOW!**

DETAILED PROGRAM

Monday 23rd of November

12:20 **Session 1E: Early Career Researchers' Day**

12:20 Welcome Address - **Michael Huang** - Victorian Cardiovascular Research Network

12:25 Keynote - From Bench to Breakthrough: Lessons from Building a Research Career - Francine Marques

13:00 - **Session 2E: ECR Talk Prize Session - Judged by Industry**

13:00 Implementing ECMO Services - Nursing Expertise & Workforce Dynamics - **Paul Ross**

13:07 Natural Language Processing for Detecting Bleeding in ECMO - **Emma Vande Wouwer**

13:14 Echocardiogram-Guided Speed Optimisation Improves Haemodynamic Outcomes in Patients With VADs: A Single Centre Retrospective Study - **Mariana Dragas**

13:21 How Artificial Lung Cannulation Configuration Influences Group 3 Pulmonary Hypertension - **Michael Garbutt**

13:28 Haemocompatibility by Design: Engineering Trust at the Blood-Material Interface - **Sophie Armstrong**

13:35 Kinetics and Outcomes of Early Thrombocytopenia in VA-ECMO: Insights from OBLEX - **Ruan Vlock**

13:42 Where and When Healthy Aortic Flow Transitions: Geometric Sensitivity and Turbulence Model Performance - **Zahra Dastyar**

13:49 A Tuneable Soft Robotic Model of Aortic Stenosis - **Patrick Pruscino**

13:56 Preclinical Validation of a Custom Multi-Wavelength NIRS Cerebral Oximeter During CPR: A Porcine Cardiac Arrest Model - **Joshua Lute**

14:03 Monash Artificial Heart Team Update - **Monash Heart Hack**

14:10 QUT Artificial Heart Team Update - **QUT HeartBeats**

14:17 UNSW Bionic Heart: Award-Winning Student-Led Artificial Heart Team - **UNSW Bionic Heart**

14:30 Afternoon Tea - Sponsored by CorWave

15:30 Session 3E: Workshop - Clinician-Engineer Matchmaking

- Hosted by **Andrew Stephens**

ECR Dinner and Drinks - Sponsored by Johnson and

18:00 - Johnson Cardiovascular

Late Dinner at Conference Venue Freddy's Pizza
Drinks at College Lawn Hotel, 36 Greville St, Prahran VIC 3181

DETAILED PROGRAM

Tuesday 24th of November

9:00 **Session 1: Welcome Address and Keynotes**

9:00 Welcome Address - **Hitesh Patel and Jayne Sheldrake**

9:10 Patient Experience on ECPELLA, A Post-Stemi MCS Journey - Shaun and Jayne
9:40 International Keynote - The Critical Care Envelope: A New Safety Framework for ECMO Delivery - Christiaan Meuwese

10:10 Keynote - Confinement and Clotting, the Challenges of Paediatric VAD - Jacob Mathew

10:30 Morning Tea - Sponsored by Roche

10:50 Session 2: Industry Talks

10:50 **Johnson and Johnson - TBC - Kristofer Dickson**

11:00 Hydrix - A Platform Approach to Mechanical Circulatory Support Innovation - Pauline Newlove

11:10 Abbott - The Challenges of Miniaturizing the LVAD Pump and Peripherals - Abbott Global R&D Team

11:20 Elite Medical - Who is Elite Medical? And Why Are We at AUSMCS? - Nelson May

11:30 Session 3: Invited Talks

11:30 Artificial Heart Frontiers Program Update - **Shaun Gregory**

11:42 Alfred Intensive Care Research Update - **Aidan Burrell**

11:52 Simulating ECPR In Vivo for Applications in Research and Training - **Daniel Donner**

12:06 Right Ventricular Failure After LVAD Implantation Following Bridging With V-A ECMO - Hideaki Nonaka

12:18 Soft Robotics Towards Advanced In-Vitro Cardiovascular Modelling - James Davies

12:30 Lunch and Team Photo - Sponsored by Johnson and Johnson

13:30 Session 4: Invited Talks

13:30 Man Vs Machine: A New Way of Validating Medical AI - **Andrew Stephens**

13:42 Cardioprotective Therapies During VA ECMO Support - **Christiaan Meuwese**

13:54 Novel Trainers for ECMO Initiation - **Madeline Rhodes**

14:06 Practical Experiences in Medical Device Translation - **Nina Langer**

14:18 Australian Mechanical Circulatory Support Registry Update - **Chris Hayward**

14:30 Modelling Gas Exchange on VV ECMO - **Chris Joyce**

14:42 Paediatric VADs in an Adult Arena: Innovation, Adaptation and the SCHN Experience - Ania Berent

DETAILED PROGRAM

Tuesday 24th of November - Continued

15:00 Afternoon Tea - Sponsored by Roche

Session 5: Workshop - Reverse Brainstorming: Tackling

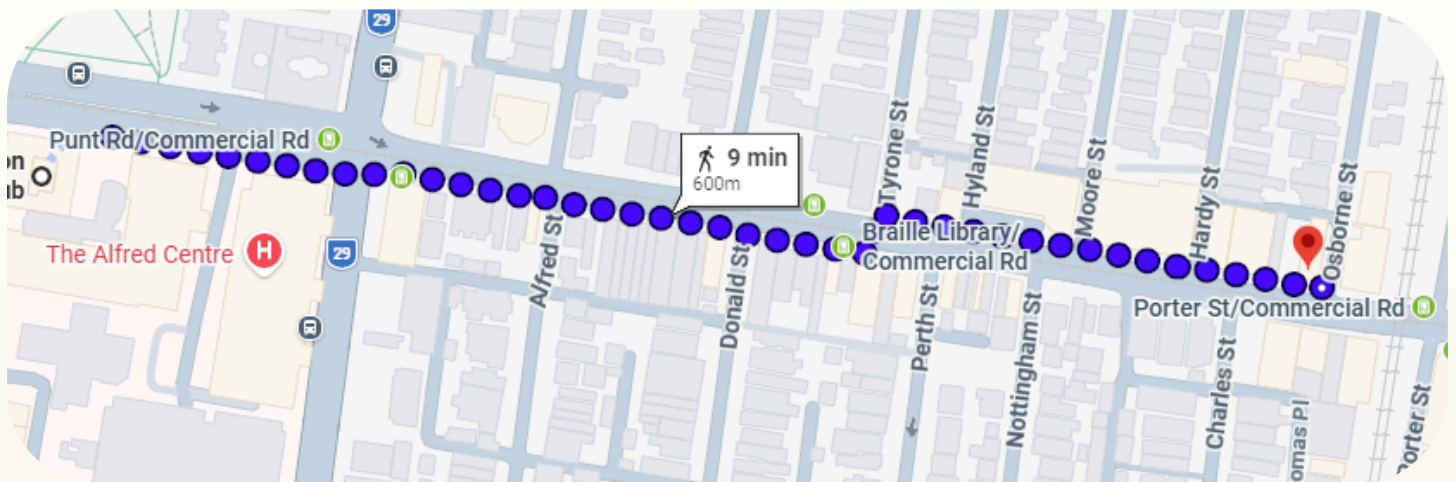
15:30 MCS's Biggest Problems

- Hosted by **Daniel Donner** and **Nchafatso Obonyo**

17:30 Alfred ICU Tour and Baker Institute Labs Tour

18:30 - Gala Dinner at the Osbourne

Late - 119 Commercial Rd, South Yarra, 3141



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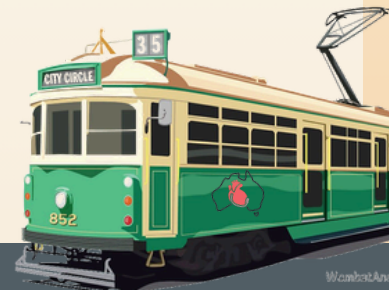
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DETAILED PROGRAM

Wednesday 25th of November

9:30 **Session 6: Patient Experience and Keynotes**

9:30 **Patient Journey - Takeaway ECPR: Out-of-Hospital Cannulation in a Coffee Shop - Brendan and Rosie**

10:00 **10:00 - Keynote - Mechanical Circulatory Support in Congenital Disease - David Kaye**

10:30 **Keynote - The role of Impella 5.5 In Cardiogenic Shock - Dion Stub**

11:00 **Morning Tea - Sponsored by Elite Medical**

11:30 **Session 7: Invited Talks**

11:30 A Novel Pulsative VAD - **Ulrich Stock**

11:42 Up, Down, and Back Again: Rethinking VA-ECMO Haemodynamics - **Pankaj Jain**

11:54 The Turbulent Relationship Between Blood and MCS - **David Bark**

12:06 Title TBC - **Silvana Marasco**

12:18 Accelerating ECPR Research: Translational Insights from Experimental Models - **Candice Todd**

12:30 **Lunch - Sponsored by Abbott Laboratories**

Session 8 - Panel: ECMO Saves Lives, So Why Can't We Prove It?

13:30 Moderated by **Pankaj Jain**; **Arne Diehl** - Intensive Care Consultant, **Jayne Sheldrake** - ECMO Coordinator; **Mark Sackley** - Patient Advocate, **Lisa Higgins** - Health Economist

14:30 **Afternoon Tea - Sponsored by Elite Medical**

15:00 **Session 9 - Invited Presentations**

15:00 The Role and Evidence of Intermediate Cardiac Support - Is There a Place? - **Arne Diehl**

15:12 Preclinical Device Testing in Large Animal Models - **Nchafatso Obonyo**

15:24 Left Ventricular Unloading During VA-ECMO - **Quentin Moyon**

15:36 Improving LVAD Tissue Integration Through Additive Manufacturing: Early In Vitro and In Vivo Evidence - **Linxiao Zeng**

16:00 **Closing Ceremony and Awards - Presented by Sponsors**

PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

Monday 23rd of November - ECR Day

ECR Keynote: From Bench to Breakthrough: Lessons from Building a Research Career - Francine Marques

Invited EMCR Talks: *Prizes to be Won!*

EMCR Workshop: *Clinician - Engineer Matchmaking*

Young Investigator Dinner: *Pizza and Beers at the College Lawn*

Tuesday 24th of November

Patient Story: ECPELLA - A Post-STEMI MCS Journey

International Keynote: The Critical Care Envelope: A New Safety Framework for ECMO - Christiaan Meuwese

Keynote: *Confinement and Clotting, the Challenges of Paediatric VAD* - Jacob Mathew

Workshop: *Reverse Brainstorming - Solving MCS's Biggest Problems*

Gala Dinner: *The Osbourne Rooftop Bar*

Wednesday 25th of November

Patient Story: *Coffee To Go: An ECPR Journey*

Keynote: David Kaye - *MCS in Congenital Patients*

Keynote: Dion Stub - *The Role of Impella 5.5 in Cardiogenic Shock*

Panel: *ECMO Saves Lives. So Why Can't We Prove It?*

ECR Awards Ceremony

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