

AAAPC News - August 2023

Hello everyone,

We have made it through AAAPC's busiest month of the year with an amazing conference and an informative annual general meeting. Make sure you don't miss any of the August updates, including:

- Conference wrap up
- AAAPC Charles Bridges Webb medal winner
- AAAPC 2023 AGM reports
- New AAAPC awards for 2024

And much, much more...

Happy reading!



AAAPC23 Wrap up

The highlight of the last month has surely been our AAAPC Annual Research Conference. We heard presentations over a wide range of primary care topics, all of exceptional quality.

Thank you to all who shared their expertise via presentations, posters and workshops and an extra thank you for all attending the conference creating a supportive environment, engaging your curiosity and inspiring discussion. Another big thank you to all our sponsors, without your support we would not have an annual conference.

AAAPC23 Abstracts are all published with the Australian Journal for Primary Health, also

a long term AAAPC sponsor. Please read the abstracts [here](#).

To revisit the excitement, you can find lots of great content on X (formerly twitter) by using the search bar and typing: #AAAPC23.

This years conference evaluation had a little hiccup! If you attended the conference and

have a few minutes we would love to hear your feedback here: [AAAPC Annual](#)

[Research Conference Evaluation](#). The new AAAPC Conference Committee will use this feedback to help inform AAAPC24 which will be kindly hosted by the University of Western Sydney.

2023 AAAPC Research and Education awards

The [Charles Bridges Webb](#) medal is awarded to recognise AAAPC members who have made, and will continue to make, international-standard research contributions to academic activities in the primary care environment. To find out more about this

prestigious award, see our [webpage](#).

Congratulations to [Professor Nigel Stocks](#) who was awarded the AAAPC Charles Bridges Webb medal at the AAAPC 2023 AGM. Professor Nigel Stocks is Professor and Head, Discipline of General Practice, Adelaide Medical School, University of Adelaide. He is the Director of the Australian Sentinel Practices Research Network (ASPREN) and on the Boards of the Australian Medicines Handbook, Summit Health and Adelaide to Outback. He also practices as a GP in the Adelaide Hills. Professor Stocks has made extraordinary contributions nationally and internationally to clinical and health services research, particularly in cardiovascular health, infectious disease, prevention and quality of life.



The [Neil Carson medal](#) is awarded to recognise AAAPC members who have made, and will continue to make, international-standard education contributions for primary care. We did not receive nominations for the Neil Carson medal in 2023. To find out more about

this prestigious award, please see our [webpage](#) and consider an application for 2024.

NEW member awards for 2024

As part of our 40th anniversary celebrations, AAAPC launched two new annual awards for members. AAAPC will commit up to \$8000 per year, pending available funds and applications.

1. An award to provide financial support for AAAPC members to conduct primary care research and/or education with First Nations or underrepresented racial and ethnic groups.
2. An award to support AAAPC members who are experiencing financial hardship and other disadvantages to attend the AAAPC Annual Research Conference.

Applications for these awards will open in February 2024. See details on our [webpage](#).

AAAPC 2023 Annual General Meeting

The AAAPC 2023 Annual General Meeting was held on Thursday 17th of August from 5pm at Melbourne University and via Zoom. We heard how AAAPC has been advocating for primary care research and education with Australian government and primary care organisations. We heard about new initiatives to enhance engagement with our organisation and how AAAPC is giving and continues to increase benefits for members.

To read the reports from executive committee in 2023 see our [webpage](#).

Elections for [executive committee](#) members were unopposed. We welcome a new President, Vice President, Treasurer, Chair of the Academic Policy and Advocacy Subcommittee, and Chair of the Education Subcommittee, and Chair of the Conference subcommittee. The new executive committee will meet for the first time in mid-September. The next two newsletters will include a short introduction to our committee members and their service goals for AAAPC.

Members Noticeboard

The AAAPC [members noticeboard](#) is *the* space to post national and international primary care opportunities: jobs, research projects, guidelines and resources – really whatever you like!



This month we have been busy, with: A discussion on the NHMRC Peer Review Analysis committee report; a job opportunity with University of Sydney Rural Health; and [a News GP article highlighting AAAPC](#).

Keep up to date with all the news by getting regular updates on noticeboard posts in your emails. Click [here](#) to subscribe, or navigate to the AAAPC members noticeboard (requires login) and click the subscribe button.

Using the noticeboard is as easy as 1 - 2 - 3!

1. Sign into the AAAPC website and go to the [Members Only Section >> Noticeboard](#)
2. Underneath the big blue rectangle there is a 'Subscribe' button you can click to receive regular messages to your inbox.
3. If you would like to leave a message for other members, click the 'Create topic' button underneath the big blue rectangle.

AAAPC Subcommittee Updates



AAAPC has 5 subcommittees dedicated to advancing the building excellence in academic primary care. [AAAPC strategic plan](#) and

Would you like to contribute to AAAPC in an official capacity? Build your networks and share your leadership expertise by getting involved as a member! Email your interest to secretariat@aaapc.org.au

APA: Will welcome new chair, Professor Grant Russell. The subcommittee will set a meeting time after the first executive meeting. An email will be sent in the next few weeks to all current members to ensure their continued engagement.

Education: Will welcome new chair, Ms Frances Barraclough to lead over the next 2 years. The subcommittee is currently working on a white paper outlining the value of multidisciplinary care teams and is coordinating a webinar for October this year, to be led by Dr Sharon James on preparation, preparedness and practice scope of nurses working in general practice. Keep an eye out for information on social media, on our webpage and in the next newsletter.

ME: Has been busy on social media and online ensuring AAAPC is sharing all the great primary care research and education activities from it's members. The subcommittee will meet in the next few weeks to discuss plans for 2023/24. IF you would like to join this subcommittee and contribute to ensuring AAAPC provides value for members and increases it's reach into all primary care disciplines, email secretariat@aaapc.org.au with your interest.

Conference: Has celebrated a fantastic in person conference! The new conference subcommittee, led by Dr Phyllis Lau will meet soon to kick off organisation of AAAPC24. The 2024 conference will be held University of Western Sydney. If you would like to contribute to the conference organisation, email your interest to secretariat@aaapc.org.au.

EMCA: Has launched the EMCA mentoring program at the AAAPC23 conference and is revelling in a job well done after the EMCA networking lunch. Can't wait to hear more from this group soon. If you are an early career researcher, looking to join the group, please email secretariat@aaapc.org.au to be linked in.

Upcoming Primary Care Opportunities

RACGP top-up scholarships

The RACGP Foundation is offering two PhD top-up scholarships to support outstanding GPs and GPs in training to undertake PhD research in 2024. The scholarships will provide \$25,000 per annum (FTE), with an additional \$5,000 per annum (FTE) for use towards professional development and research translation activities. Applicants will be expected to hold a base PhD scholarship, or similar salary support, at an Australian university. DUE

November 3rd. Find out more [here](#).

International research funding opportunities

The **NIHR Health Technology Assessment Programme** in the UK has a long-standing collaboration with the Australian NHMRC and advertise joint commissioned calls inviting collaborative international research proposals to address shared research priorities.

These collaborative commissioned calls are announced on the

[NIHR](#) and funding [NHMRC](#) websites. There is also opportunity to [suggest research topics](#) that could go through the NIHR prioritisation process for future funding consideration. Joint funding applications between the UK and Australia may be one way to provide opportunity and solidify international relationships in primary health care research. Please contact the Secretariat if you have a research idea and we can put you in

touch with the Society for Academic Primary Care (SAPC) in the UK who may be able to assist with facilitating collaboration with NIHR.

The **NHMRC-EU Collaborative Research Grant Scheme** supports Australian participation in international collaborative research under Horizon Europe. Several topics streams are available, with primary care applications for all streams. Find out more about how to

apply [here](#), via GrantConnect.

Australian primary care specific funding opportunities

A few primary care relevant grant opportunities that may be of interest for you or your team members:

- [Public Health and Chronic Disease Program Increasing Awareness of Endometriosis in Priority Populations](#). To ensure priority populations affected by endometriosis, their families/carers and wider population have access to evidence-based education resources, care and support. Due 7 September, 2023.
- **MRFF** [Emerging Priorities in Consumer Driven Research – 2023 Post-Acute Sequelae of COVID-19](#). Stream 1 has a focus on consumers in primary care. Applications close 1 November 2023.
- [MRFF 2023 Cardiovascular Health Mission](#). To develop and/or test tools, resources, and/or strategies that could be implemented to improve both the health care provision for and experience of consumers. Streams 5 and 2-4 have potential primary care opportunities. *UPDATED DUE DATE*: November 15, 2023.
- [MRFF 2023 Dementia aging and aged care mission](#). To improve access to preventive health interventions and improve quality of care for older Australians NHMRC Clinical Trials and Cohort studies. To support high-quality clinical trials and cohort studies that address important gaps in knowledge, leading to relevant and implementable findings for health. Due 15 November, 2023.
- [MRFF Million Minds Mental Health Research Mission](#). To improve quality of life for those who might not otherwise benefit from mental health research. Of the four streams available, primary care could fit within all. Due 29 November, 2023.
- [MRFF Indigenous Health Research Fund](#). Within this opportunity are three targeted calls aimed at exploring social determinants of health, interventions for cancer incidence reduction, or strategies for infectious disease reduction. Two more streams target small-scale projects to explore concepts of health and wellbeing within health systems and ways to support health care systems to support cultural and social determinants of health. Due 29 November, 2023.
- [MRFF Research Data Infrastructure Grant](#). To support strategic investments that establish and extend national research data infrastructure that supports health and medical research. Due December 1, 2023

Remember to subscribe to [GrantConnect](#). GrantConnect provides a centralised publication of all forecast and current Australian Government grant opportunities via an online portal. To receive personalised research grant updates, make sure to input your research key words (separated by commas) when you register!



WONCA 2023 Abstracts Open

The World Organisation of Family Doctors Conference will be held in **Sydney Australia** from **26-29 October, 2023**. Late breaking abstracts will open on May 24. [Find out more here.](#)



Congratulations to some of our AAAPC member who were successful in obtaining RACGP Foundation Grants to conduct primary care research and education. AAAPC members and the titles of their successful projects include:

- **Nigel Stocks** and team for Trends in diabetes monitoring and diabetes control among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people attending general practice: a comparison between urban and rural locations in Australia
- **Kathleen O'Brien** for Respiratory Syncytial Virus in Australia - an update
- **Sharon James** and team for Supporting primary care provision of contraception and abortion: an evaluation of digital content from an Australian virtual community of practice
- **Meredith Makeham** and team Optimising Virtual Care technologies between general practice and residential aged care: a Human Factors approach
- **Nancy Sturman** and teams for StudyU: a pilot of digitally-enabled, personalised experiments in general practice settings to support self-management and shared decision-making in patients with persistent pain AND Identifying effective self-management options for individual patients with persistent neck and/or back pain following road traffic crashes: a general practice-based feasibility study
- **Chris Barton** and team for "Precursor": detecting and preventing chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) in "young" middle-aged adults – a preliminary pilot in general practice
- **Rena Lawrence** and team for A general practice toolkit to promote physical activity among people living with cancer
- **Penelope Abbott** and team for Identifying and engaging with people who use interpersonal abuse and violence who present in Australian general practice
- **Mieke van Driel** and team for Qualitative analysis of GP registrar use of, and beliefs about, the role of POC tools in clinical care

- **Jaqueline Frayne** and team for Aboriginal women's perspectives on menstrual health and modes of engagement with primary care providers

Congratulations to some of our members on successful publications:

- **Alexandra Davidson** and team: [Family carers' experiences and perceived roles in interprofessional collaborative practice in primary care: A constructivist grounded theory study](#). *Health Expectations*, July 2023.
- **Lauren Ball** and team: [Calories and kilojoules: how do we know the energy content of food and how accurate are the labels?](#) *The Conversation*, August 2023.
- **Nor Akma Yunus** and team: [The perceptions of healthcare practitioners on obesity management in Peninsular Malaysia: a cross-sectional survey](#). *BMC Health Services Research*, July 2023.
- **Kyle Eggleton** and team: [Envisioning a Tiriti-responsive New Zealand Health Plan: lessons from district health boards annual plans](#). *New Zealand Medical Journal*, August 2023.
- **Felicity Goodyear-smith** and team: [Teaching medical students in general practice when conducting remote consults: A qualitative study](#). *Education for Primary Care*, August 2023.
- **Christopher Harrison** and team: [Anxiety management in Australian general practice: an analysis of encounters from 2006-2016](#). *BMC Primary Care*, August 2023.
- **Ben Harris-Roxas** and team: [Exploring the spread and scale of a web-based clinical decision support portal in Sydney, Australia, during COVID-19: A case study](#). *Journal of Integrated Care*, August 2023

This list does not comprehensively include the achievements of all of our members (sorry). Please send me an email at katelyn.barnes@anu.edu.au when you or another member you know has an achievement that we can all celebrate! Some previous examples include a new PhD completion, publication, or an award. Remember to also tag @AAAPC_ANZ in tweets about achievements in primary care -- we would love to share the joy!

Welcome to New AAAPC Members

We would love to introduce all new members in the newsletter - it is a great way to build networks within our community, highlight your areas of research interest and projects you might be working on. If you would like your bio to be published in the monthly newsletter, please email secretariat@aaapc.org.au or katelyn.barnes@anu.edu.au. We are excited to meet you!

Until next time!

Katelyn Barnes,
AAAPC Editor

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Pic: AAAPC 2023 and 2024 Executive Committee members