



ADVANCING PAIN CARE

Challenges and opportunities

2-3 October 2026
RACV City Club, Melbourne
#PAINSM26

PROGRAM

Friday 2 October

8.30am	Workshop registration	
9am–12pm	Supervisors of training (SOT) workshop: Entrustable professional activities	Facilitators: Dr Tipu Aamir, Dr Carl Jones and Ms Janet McConville
9am–12pm	FPM examiner foundations MCQ workshop	Facilitators: Associate Professor Rob Park and Dr Don Johnson
12–1pm	Lunch	
12.30–2pm	W01: Advanced cardiovascular life support (ACLS) workshop	Facilitators: Dr Tom Grosser-Kennedy and Dr Harry Sivakumar
12.30–2.30pm	W04: Opioid-induced ventilatory impairment (OIVI) workshop	Facilitators: Dr Bronwen Evans and Dr Noam Winter
2–3pm	Afternoon tea	
2.30–4pm	W02: Advanced cardiovascular life support (ACLS) workshop	Facilitators: Dr Tom Grosser-Kennedy and Dr Harry Sivakumar
3–5pm	W03: Opioid-induced ventilatory impairment (OIVI) workshop	Facilitators: Dr Bronwen Evans and Dr Noam Winter
5–7pm	Welcome Reception	

Saturday 3 October

8am	Registration	
8.30–8.45	Welcome Welcome from the FPM Dean Welcome to Country Convenors' Welcome	Professor Michael Veltman Dr Harry Sivakumar
8.45–10.30am	Session 1: Pelvic pain as a model for integrated care From pain mechanisms to management: The pain specialist's role in complex pelvic pain Restoring function: The role of pelvic physiotherapy in multidisciplinary care Nutrition, gut health and pelvic pain: Practical opportunities for better outcomes Panel discussion: What does good integrated pelvic pain care look like?	Dr Karin Jones Dr Shan Morrison Ms Shannon McDonough All speakers
10.30–11am	Morning tea	

11am–12.30pm	Session 2: Bridging specialties in complex pain care	
	Making sense of the rheumatology screen: When to investigate, refer and reassure	Dr Rushab Shah
	Headache: A neurologist's approach and shared care opportunities	Dr Trudy Cheng
	A psychiatrist's approach to the use of antidepressant medicines in current psychiatric practice	Dr Dan Hubik
12.30–1.30pm	Lunch	
12.45–1.15pm	Lunchtime session: ePOCC information session <i>This session will explore the closure of ePPOC and the sector-wide response across Australia and New Zealand, including implications for pain services, benchmarking, and outcomes-based care. We will consider the future of pain registries and practical strategies to mitigate disruption while sustaining meaningful data collection and quality improvement.</i>	Professor Michael Veltman and Dr Irina Hollington
1.30–2.50pm	Session 3: Interventional pain medicine, evidence, innovation and patient selection	
	Pulsed radiofrequency: Mechanisms and optimisation techniques	Associate Professor Marc Russo
	Neuromodulation now and next: Evidence, evolving indications, and access	Dr Richard Sullivan
	Panel discussion: Matching the right intervention to the right patient	All speakers
2.50–3.20pm	Afternoon tea	
3.20–5pm	Session 4: Research, translation and the future of pain care	
	ViaDisc: Emerging biologic treatment for discogenic low back pain	Dr Harrison Mihailidis
	Optogenetics and the future of pain science: What might be possible?	Dr Mary Ardren
	Perioperative opioid stewardship: Stakeholder perspectives on changing practice	Dr Megan Allen
5pm	Meeting concludes	