



HEALTH LIBRARIES INC. & ALIA HEALTH LIBRARIES AUSTRALIA 2026 CONFERENCE

THE FIRE WITHIN: PASSION AND PURPOSE IN HEALTH LIBRARIES

THURSDAY 15 OCTOBER, 2026

9:00 am	Welcome to Country Conference Opening
9:30 am	Keynote Speaker – Doctor Ranjana Srivastava OAM Monash Health
10:30 am	Morning tea
11:00 am	Fuelling Partnerships: Libraries Supporting Allied Health Research Capability Keren Moskal – Monash Health; Ruth Lawrence – Eastern Health and Eunice Ang – Northern Health
11:20 am	Embedded expertise: A health librarian's collaborative experience with clinical projects Frances Guinness – Western NSW Local Health District
11:30 am	Libraries Without Walls: Connecting Hospital Patients to Public Library Resources Alice Anderson – Monash Health and Heidi Babatsikos – Monash Public Library
11:40 am	Bibliotherapy for wellbeing: Creating space for reflection Mina Nichols-Boyd – Austin Health
11:50 am	Platinum Sponsor Presentation McGraw Hill
12:05 pm	Spark, Fan, Flame: Growing a Repository That Delivers A'Mhara McKey – NT Health Library Services



12:25 pm	Advancing Equity in Clinical Research Publishing Gemma Siemensma – Grampians Health, Cass Gorton – Monash Health and John Prentice – ANZCA
12:35 pm	Fuel for advocacy: Mapping the value of health libraries Tania Barry – Northern Health
12:45 pm	Lunch
1:45 pm	Award presentations HLA & HLI
2:00 pm	Gold Sponsor Presentation EBSCO
2:05 pm	Reframing the profession: the 2026 edition of the Competencies for Health Librarians and Health Library Technicians Ann Ritchie – Project Lead (HLA)
2:15 pm	Lighting the path to reliable health information: A collaborative, consumer focused guide Teija Ruuska – Monash Health
2:25 pm	Search Filters: a 'Net Gain' for literature searching Cecily Gilbert – Honorary University of Melbourne
2:35 pm	Burning questions: Preliminary results of the health librarians' search filters survey Eunice Ang – Northern Health
2:45 pm	Systematic and scoping review challenges in the midst of change Patrick Splawa-Neyman – Monash University
2:55 pm	Health literacy in context: Understanding health literacy among individuals with mild cognitive impairment and their family members Elahe Zare-Farashbandi – Deakin University
3:05 pm	Gold Sponsor Presentation Australian Medicines Handbook



3:10 pm	Poster Presentations Afternoon tea
3:40 pm	Gold Sponsor Presentation OVID
3:45 pm	Fuelling better services: Using patron mapping and lean thinking to redesign library evidence services Nikki May – SA Health Library Service
4:05 pm	I didn't know we had a library! Building awareness through a promotions strategy Madeleine Beer – Monash Health
4:15 pm	Fan the flames: ensure your library burns bright Megan Giles – Sunshine Coast Health Institute, Queensland Australia.
4:25 pm	Saving Our Past, Informing Our Future: Health Libraries and Organisational History Cherish McDonald– HNE Health Libraries – HNELHD
4:35 pm	Day 1 Closing Reception Drinks



FRIDAY 16 OCTOBER, 2026

9:00 am	HLInc AGM	
9:20 am	Day 2 Opening	
9:30 am	Why libraries matter Daniel McDonald – Darling Downs Health	
9:45 am	Igniting AI Literacy: The evolving role of health librarians in building workforce capability Elizabeth Harris & Mozhdeh Dehghani – Austin Health	
10:05 am	Follow the money: why funding models matter for ethical AI adoption in health libraries Amy McKenzie – Austin Health	
10:15 am	GenAI assisted screening compared to manual screening: the MechaScreener trial Sarah Bateup – Institute for Evidence-Based Healthcare, Bond University	
10:35 am	Igniting Knowledge for Evidence-Based Practice: Bridging the Gap Between Health Library Workforce Expectations and Early Career Capabilities Anita Dewi – Charles Sturt University	
10:50 am	Global Sparks: Innovations from Health Libraries Worldwide Cass Gorton – Monash Health	
11:00 am	Morning tea	
11:30 am	Workshop 1 (Auditorium): Towards two-week reviews using acceleration focused, systematic reviews with automation tools Sarah Bateup – Institute for Evidence-Based Healthcare, Bond University	Workshop 2 (Breakout Room): From Invisible to Indispensable: Marketing Health Libraries in Busy Clinical Environments Cherish McDonald – HNE Health Libraries, NHELHD



1:00 pm	Lunch	
1:30 pm	Meeting (Auditorium): Hospital Librarians Community of Practice Keren Moskal	Meeting (Breakout Room): Australian Health Library Managers Kimberley Hargrave & Nikki May
2:30 pm	Meeting (Auditorium): Gratis Alice Anderson	Meeting (Breakout Room): Australian Evidence-Based Practice Librarians Institute (AEBPLI) Kathryn Rough
3:00 pm	Conference Closing	

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

The REDCap webinar series: Librarians as educators in research

Mercer Kim – Monash Health

Local Knowledge informing better health: Progress update on building a digital collection of Aboriginal health resources for the Northern Territory

Saara Kahkonen and A'Mhara McKey – NT Health Library Services

Igniting sustainability and connection through textile recycling

Madeleine Beer – Monash Health



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