

Conference Programme



Friday

From 12 noon	Conference Registrations	Level 1 Lobby
From 2pm	Hotel Check-in	Hotel Reception
From 6:30pm	Welcome Drinks commence	Level 1 Lobby
7:00pm - 7:15pm	Welcome to the Conference	Level 1 Lobby
7:15pm - 9:15pm	Casual Dinner	Level 1 Lobby
9:15pm	End of proceedings, see you in the morning	Level 1 Lobby

Saturday

From 6am	Buffet Breakfast	The Ascot, Mezzanine
From 8am	Coffee and tea available - self serve	Level 1 Lobby
8:30am	Conference Room Opens	Hercules Room, Level 1
8:45am - 9:00am	Welcome to The Conference	Hercules Room, Level 1
9am - 9:45am	<i>SPEAKER: Professor David Sillence "50 Years Progress with OI Diagnosis and Care - Where To Now?"</i>	Hercules Room, Level 1
10am - 10:50am	<i>SPEAKER: Lucy Butler "The Power of Clarity"</i>	Hercules Room, Level 1
10:50 - 11:10am	MORNING TEA	Level 1 Lobby
11:15 - 12:15pm	<i>SPEAKER: Elissa Coates "Know the Power of Powered Mobility"</i>	Hercules Room, Level 1
12:15pm - 1pm	LUNCH	Level 1 Lobby
1pm - 1:15pm	Welcome back from Lunch	Hercules Room, Level 1
1:15pm - 2:15pm	<i>SPEAKERS: Jeremy Lai & Daphne Nguyen "Physiotherapy Research Update"</i>	Hercules Room, Level 1
2:15pm - 3:15pm	<i>SPEAKER: Gail Miller "Attitude is Everything"</i>	Hercules Room, Level 1
3:15pm - 3:35pm	AFTERNOON TEA	Level 1 Lobby
3:45pm - 4:30pm	<i>SPEAKER: Denise Beckwith "Sociality, Intimacy and Sexuality"</i>	Hercules Room A, Lvl 1
3:45pm - 4:30pm	<i>SPEAKER: Lucy Butler (alternative) "Tools to Master your Mindset"</i>	Hercules Room B, Lvl 1
4:45pm - 5pm	End of Day Wrap up	Hercules Room, Level 1
5pm - 6pm	FREE TIME	
6pm - 6:30pm	GALA DINNER: Guests arrive and are seated	Dreamliner - Rooftop
6:30pm - 6:35pm	Welcome to the Dinner	Dreamliner - Rooftop
6:35pm - 7:15pm	Main Course Service	Dreamliner - Rooftop
7:15pm - 8:15pm	<i>SPEAKER: Dylan Alcott AO</i>	Dreamliner- Rooftop
8:30pm - 9:30pm	Dessert and Coffee	Dreamliner - Rooftop
9:30pm	Gala Dinner Thanks and Formal Wrap up	Dreamliner - Rooftop
9:30 - 10:30pm	Bar service continues, meeting with friends.	Dreamliner- Rooftop

Conference Programme



Sunday

From 6am	Buffet Breakfast	The Ascot, Mezzanine
From 8am	Coffee and tea available - self serve	Level 1 Lobby
From 8:30am	Conference Room Opens	Hercules Room, Level 1
8:45am - 9:00am	Welcome to Day 2	Hercules Room, Level 1
9:00am - 10:00am	<i>SPEAKER: A/Prof Kristi Jones "IVF and pre-implantation genetic diagnosis - exploring options for planning a pregnancy"</i>	Hercules Room, Level 1
10am - 10:20am	MORNING TEA	Level 1 Lobby
10:30- 11:30am	<i>SPEAKER: Sam Bloom "Heartache and Birdsong"</i>	Hercules Room, Level 1
11:30 - 12 noon	Meet & Greet with Sam Bloom	Hercules Room, Level 1
12noon -12:15pm	Farewell from the Conference	Hercules Room, Level 1
12:15- 1:30pm	LUNCH	Level 1 Lobby



OI SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA
CONFERENCE
30 Sept – 2 Oct 2022
Rydges Sydney International Airport

Speakers and Presentations

Emeritus Professor David Sillence AM MB BS (Syd) MD (Melb) FRACP FAFRM

Professor Sillence has worked with, and for, people with OI and their families, for nearly 50 years. He pioneered early work and the present scientific studies and is still working at the highest international level for diagnosis and available medical treatments.

“50 Years Progress with OI Diagnosis and Care - Where To Now?”

The international naming of brittle bone disorders came from research by Prof Sillence and several colleagues between 1975 and 1980. Four groups (OI types 1-4) have now been expanded to six. With DNA molecular techniques (Genomic Medicine) the number of separate OI genes is 22. These types result from many genetic variants (previously known as mutations). There are at least 18 other named brittle bone conditions.

For children with osteoporosis i.e. less bone, plus fragility, various therapies have been introduced, transforming the lives of children with OI. Quality of life for children and adults has improved through multidisciplinary care programs with allied health interventions, bisphosphonate therapies and orthopaedic surgery.

Clinical A/Prof Kristi Jones

“IVF and pre-implantation genetic diagnosis - exploring options for planning a pregnancy”

A/Prof Kristi Jones is a paediatrician and clinical geneticist, in the Department of Clinical Genetics at the Children’s Hospital at Westmead in Sydney. She is a Clinical Associate Professor with the University of Sydney and actively involved in clinical trials of new genetic therapies for neuromuscular conditions. A/Prof Jones has consulted for Genea Fertility for the last 15 years, talking to couples who want to have IVF to test their embryos for a particular genetic condition. She joins us to open a discussion on options for planning a pregnancy.

Gail Ruth Miller

From a background in children’s dentistry to becoming an author, speaker, mindset mentor and aged care consultant, Gail has never been one to sit around and wait for life to happen. Married for 45 years, Gail and Ron live in Adelaide and have two adult children. They’re a seemingly ordinary, happy family, but delve into their past and it wasn’t always this way. Although Gail has walked the path of adversity, she’s emerged with an attitude that allows her to find the good in almost any situation. Her mantra is – Making lives Easier

“Attitude is Everything”

Life can throw unexpected curve balls. How we navigate these challenges will depend on the CHOICES we make. Through the telling of three life-changing stories, Gail will show us why Attitude IS Everything.

Denise Beckwith BSW (Hons1) PhD Candidate (Sociology)

Denise Beckwith is a woman with physical disability, who has worked in disability rights space for more than 20 years. A large amount of Denise’s work has centred around the topic of sexuality and expression for people with disability. Since 2015 Denise has undertaken social work research at both an Honours and PhD level relevant to sexuality, sexual expression and the importance of inclusive sexuality education.

“Sociality, Intimacy & Sexuality”

Denise’s presentation explores the significance of developing social connections for people with physical disability as a stepping stone to forming intimate relationships. Also highlighted is the importance of clear and open communication, when discussing the topics of sexuality and sexual expression so people with disability feel they are in safe space to ask questions and that they have a right to obtain information.

Dylan Alcott AO

Australian of the Year 2022, Dylan Alcott AO is one of the country’s most successful and well recognised Paralympians. In 2021 he became the only male in any form of tennis to win the ‘Golden Slam’ - the Australian, French, Wimbledon and US Open Championships, together with his gold medal from the Tokyo Paralympic Games. In 2017, Dylan launched the Dylan Alcott Foundation, created to help young Australians with disability achieve their goals in the workplace, on the sporting field or at university. In 2022 Dylan Alcott was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia for distinguished service to Paralympic sport, particularly to tennis, as a role model for people with disability, and to the community through a range of organisations.

Join Dylan as he takes us on a journey recalling his sporting achievements, his challenges growing up and his disability advocacy - brining disability out into the open and making it a part of our daily discourse, workplaces and lives.

Sam Bloom

Sam Bloom is a woman with an extraordinary story to share. After suffering a devastating accident while on holiday with her young family in Thailand, Sam was left paralysed from the chest down. Deeply depressed and faced with the possibility of never walking again, a chance encounter with an injured magpie chick that the family dubbed “Penguin Bloom”, was to change her attitude, her recovery, and her life. Now a two-time World Para Surfing champion, bestselling author, Sam is an incredible example of the extraordinary things we can all achieve in the face of adversity.

“Heartache and Birdsong”

Sam’s life was turned upside down when an old balcony railing gave way to her when she was traveling in Thailand, leaving Sam completely paralysed from the chest down and utterly devastated at her new reality. Once a woman so independent, now relying on the help of others to do many things, Sam fell into a deep depression, leaving her family and loved ones feeling helpless. After an unlikely encounter with an injured Magpie who turned up at their family home, Sam found an unexpected friend who helped rebuild her.

Jeremy Lai, Physiotherapist

Jeremy is a physiotherapist who recently graduated from Macquarie University, Doctor of Physiotherapy program. Jeremy is now working as a community physiotherapist for an NDIS service provider in Sydney, Australia.

“Consistently Inconsistent: The Use and Experience of the NDIS for Australians with Skeletal Dysplasia”

This research utilised an online survey and interviews to explore the lived experience and use of the NDIS for Australians with skeletal dysplasia. It was found that participants experienced common barriers and facilitators towards their NDIS experience, which had emotional impacts both positively and negatively.

Daphne Nguyen, Physiotherapist

Daphne is a recent graduate of Macquarie University’s Doctor of Physiotherapy program, where she had conducted research on the functional independence among individuals with skeletal dysplasia. Through this project, she developed a keen interest in research as she discovered the impact that it may have on improving health outcomes and quality of life for many. Daphne continues to be involved with ongoing research in skeletal dysplasia populations, alongside her clinical work as a physiotherapist

“Functional Performance of Adults with Skeletal Dysplasia across Self-care, Mobility, and Cognition”

This presentation provides a summary of the performance of Australian adults with osteogenesis imperfecta and other forms of skeletal dysplasia in everyday activities across self-care, mobility, and cognitive tasks. It describes the functional challenges met among these individuals, and the importance of raising awareness to better advocate for the needs of this population group.

Elissa Coates B.App.Sc.(Physio)

Elissa is a Clinical Specialist in prevention of adverse effects of immobility and reduced function. This includes DVT prophylaxis, patient handling, early mobilisation, continence and pressure injury prevention. She has over 20 years specifically in the application of Assistive Technology. As a Physiotherapist she combines her clinical, ergonomic, human movement and Legislative background with extensive postgraduate study in Safety, Training and Management. Elissa works as a Clinical Product Specialist at Novis Healthcare, a family owned Australian business with the aim of “enabling independence” via the supply of quality Assistive Technology and premium clinical education and support

“Know the Power of Powered Mobility”

A Wheelchair can be the key to access, mobility and experiencing quality functional life. The importance of selecting a chair that meets your needs can be overwhelming. The specific design and selected features of the chair will allow maximisation of positive outcomes of implementation of this technology. In this session we will discuss the key features and components of a powered wheelchair, with special consideration spent on suspension and access height. We will look at the science of vibration and how quality suspension can protect against the negative impact of this. We hope to provide you with a solid foundation of knowledge for selecting a chair that suits your individual needs and provides you the confidence to safely access to the wonderful world around us

Lucy Butler

Lucy is a mind and body health expert and the founder of Head to Heart Health. Lucy’s mission is to help families find health, happiness, and harmony - to calm their minds, energise their bodies, and live a fulfilling life, to remember who they truly are, reclaim their identity and purpose, and let go of the limits of social conditions and expectations. Lucy approaches health with a multi-layer process, her enthusiasm is contagious and the results she helps clients achieve are transformational. Lucy supports her clients to make life-changing choices, helping them stop unhealthy habits, negative self-talk, and judgment. Lucy believes that physical, emotional, spiritual, and mental health starts with moving from your head to your heart.

“The power of Clarity”

Discover the three C’s of health and happiness with Lucy as she tells you about how her clients and herself have changed their own lives, going from lost, stuck, and overwhelmed to clear, confident, and calm with the power of clarity.

“Tools to Master your mindset”

Expand on the morning’s talk with daily tools you can use to help you gain clarity, confidence, and consistency in your health and happiness. The workshops will teach you how to create positive feelings, self-healing, and positive mindset habits. There will also be open question time for coaching and reflection.