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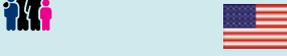
Wednesday 16 May 8:30am-4:00pm

Thursday 17 May 8:30am-3:15pm

# Wednesday 16 May 2018

	ROOM 1	ROOM 2	ROOM 3	ROOM 4
9:15am – 10:00am	<b>My (virtual) kitchen rules</b> <i>Stewart Koplick, Endeavour Foundation</i> 	<b>Wheelchair assessment for patients with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy</b> <i>Harald Sieweke, AC Mobility - Meyra Germany</i>  	<b>Client centred prescriptions: You say it, but are you doing it?</b> <i>Alli Hyde, Linds - Motion Composites</i>  	<b>Posture vs Function in clients</b> <i>Amy Bjornson, Sunrise Medical</i> 
10:45am – 11:15am	<b>Living with low vision</b> <i>Stewart Andrews, Quantum RLV</i> 	<b>Prescribing Power Standing Wheelchairs: Sharing our experiences</b> <i>Kim Vien, Yooralla and the Royal Melbourne Wheelchair and Seating Clinic and Samuel Curtis, Yooralla</i> 	<b>Dose dependency of activity based therapy on independence, mobility</b> <i>Jessica Hansson, Spinal Cord Injuries Australia</i> 	<b>Make my home accessible... yesterday</b> <i>Tracee-lee Maginnity, Astris Lifecare</i> 
11:45am – 12:15pm	<b>Scripting power chairs so you end up with the right chair for the right job and best outcome</b> <i>Ron Smelter, Ottobock</i> 	<b>Stand up! The clinical benefits of standing</b> <i>Paul Everett, Jenx</i>  	<b>Animal Assisted Therapy: A case study on the use of a therapy dog to enhance occupational therapy</b> <i>Renee Jenkins</i> 	<b>How are surfaces and shapes important to prevent pressure sores?</b> <i>Eugenio Maria Cometto, Ormesa, Italy</i>  
1:15pm – 2:00pm	<b>Shear forces and tissue integrity</b> <i>Barend ter Haar, Healthcare Innovations Australia</i>  	<b>Knowing what we know, and what we don't</b> <i>Angela Rowe, Monash Health</i> 	<b>Learning through moving: Pediatric mobility</b> <i>Magdalena Love, Permobil</i>  	<b>OT Australia panel</b> <i>Jessica Hall, National OT, Heidi Long, National OT, Tanja Brunner, Community Based Occupational Therapist and Bronwyn Stephen, Quality Lifestyle Solutions</i> 
2:30pm – 3:00pm	<b>Animal Assisted Therapy: A case study on the use of a therapy dog to enhance occupational therapy</b> <i>Renee Jenkins</i> 		<b>Good practice in AT - resources from ARATA's community of practice</b> <i>Rachael Schmidt, Schmidt Consulting &amp; Natasha Layton, ARATA</i> 	<b>Learning through inclusive play for children with ALL abilities!</b> <i>Mandy Lau, Reach and Match</i> 
3:15pm – 4:00pm	<b>Equipping intimacy: A beginner's guide</b> <i>Narelle Higson, Outside the Square OT Solutions</i> 	<b>Dynamic posture control whilst standing - A revolution</b> <i>Felicity Parkinson, R82 Australia</i> 	<b>Pressure Care and prevention of shoulder injuries - lived lessons</b> <i>Malcolm Turnbull, Permobil</i> 	<b>Wheelchair cushions - The science behind the clinical choices</b> <i>Curt Prewitt, Ki Mobility, LLC</i>  

# Thursday 17 May 2018

	ROOM 1	ROOM 2	ROOM 3	ROOM 4
9:15am – 10:00am	<b>Improving the participant and provider experience of capital supports under the NDIS</b> <i>Lloyd Walker, NDIS</i> 	<b>Avoiding random gravity tests</b> <i>David Sutton, Bilby shoes</i> 	<b>Honey I shrunk the kits</b> <i>Barend ter Haar, Healthcare Innovations Australia</i>  	<b>Face-to-face contact for the socially isolated elderly or disabled: Breakthrough technologies and case study insights</b> <i>John Nakulski, Konnekt</i> 
10:45am – 11:15am	<b>Computer &amp; device hands-free access</b> <i>Tracey Bode, Zyteq</i> 	<b>Why weight matters</b> <i>Alli Hyde, Linds - Motion Composites</i>  	<b>Where is assistive technology in Australia's aged care reforms?</b> <i>Natasha Layton, Swinburne University</i> 	<b>Biofeedback - lights, cameras, more action!</b> <i>Steve Woollard, NeuroRehab Allied Health Network</i> 
11:45am – 12:30pm	<b>Power wheelchair assessments - how modular drive control mounting systems can save time and improve accuracy of prescription</b> <i>Russ Rolt, Active Controls</i> 	<b>Power and terrain add-ons - who, when, where and why?</b> <i>Jenni Dabelstein, Gizmo Rehabilitation</i> 	<b>Creating sound foundations promoting a life of good posture for your paediatric client</b> <i>Amy Bjornson, Sunrise Medical</i> 	<b>OT Australia panel</b> <i>Jessica Hall, National OT, Heidi Long, National OT, Tanja Brunner, Community Based Occupational Therapist and Bronwyn Stephen, Quality Lifestyle Solutions</i> 
1:30pm – 2:15pm	<b>Postural and behavioural harnesses</b> <i>Chen Liu, Mobility Engineering</i> 	<b>Improving the participant and provider experience of capital supports under the NDIS</b> <i>Lloyd Walker, NDIS</i> 	<b>Advances in smart technologies for people living with dementia</b> <i>Zoe du Cann, LifeTec</i> 	<b>A decision making model for complex assistive technology prescription: in four parts</b> <i>Rachael Schmidt, Schmidt Consulting</i> 
2:45pm – 3:15pm	<b>Prevention is better than cure! Exploring postural care and body shape distortion in young children with physical disability</b> <i>Denise Luscombe, Department of Communities</i> 	<b>Standing and Gait Training – complementary goals for functional outcomes</b> <i>Jane Crowle, PME Group</i> 	<b>Transforming a functional wheelchair into something truly amazing</b> <i>Samuel Baker, Ottobock</i> 	

## Conference Program Key:

-  **Clinical**
-  **Paediatric**
-  **Consumers and Families** (including parents/carers)
-  **Aged Care**
-  **Technology** (application/developments/the future)

## Wednesday 16 May 2018

### ROOM 1



**9:15am - 10:00am**

#### **My (virtual) kitchen rules**

*Stewart Koplick, Endeavour Foundation*

Today's modern kitchen is often the site for cooking a meal, catching up with family and friends and the general comings and goings of everyday life. Yet the thought of a person with a disability preparing a meal can at times be fraught with concern and danger regarding their safety and indeed ability. Utilising cutting edge technology, however, virtual reality provides an opportunity for people to enter a virtual learning environment and simulate the preparation of a meal in an environment that is safe and structured, providing further opportunity for the continued development of life skills.



**10:45am - 11:15am**

#### **Living with low vision**

*Stewart Andrews, Quantum RLV*

Information is the key factor for people to successfully live with low vision. There are many vision aids available: Lighting, Optical Magnifiers, Electronic Portable Magnifiers, CCTV Magnifiers, Reading Machines and Computer Software. The level of vision loss generally determines the type of equipment that may assist someone read their mail, pay their bills and continue to live independently.



**11:45am - 12:15pm**

#### **Scripting power chairs so you end up with the right chair for the right job and best outcome**

*Ron Smelter, Ottobock*

With this session, we will clear away all confusion and misunderstanding about scripting power wheelchairs. The participants will understand which PWC base and what power seat systems will be best for the individuals environment. The second part of the puzzle is working out what control system and drive control options are best for your client. Such as: low end, on/off, and more advanced systems. Connectivity to smart phones, the home environment, and even alternate controls such as head array or chin control will be explained. Either way you will have a better understanding of PWC.



**1:15pm - 2:00pm**

#### **Shear forces and tissue integrity**

*Barend ter Haar, Healthcare Innovations Australia*

The forces of Pressure, Shear and Friction are individually and collectively potential causes of damage to skin, but are also important elements of keeping us in our seats! So what are the differences, what are their benefits, and what is the damage they can produce.



**2:30pm - 3:00pm**

#### **Animal assisted therapy: A case study on the use of a therapy dog to enhance occupational therapy**

*Renee Jenkins*

Renee (OT) and Macey (Therapy Dog) help people achieve their goals through Animal Assisted Therapy.



**3:15pm – 4:00pm**

### **Equipping intimacy: A beginner's guide**



*Narelle Higson, Outside the Square OT Solutions*



Many people experience challenges related to sexual expression as a result of living with disability/health conditions or the treatment for those conditions. For some, issues such as fatigue, pain and movement limitations impact on the ability to participate as preferred in intimate activities. This light-hearted and informative presentation will outline a range of assistive technology from the commonplace to the more unusual - which may be useful to support sexual expression and intimacy, both inside the bedroom and out. Strategies to assist with problem solving solutions to common challenges will also be discussed.

## **ROOM 2**



**9:15am – 10:00am**

### **Wheelchair assessment for patients with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy**



*Harald Sieweke, AC Mobility - Meyra Germany*

The seminar describes the timeline of children suffering from Duchenne. In the presentation, we use this timeline to highlight the most important and severe functional limitations to project it to complex e-power-wheelchair assessments that provide optimal disability compensation.



**10:45am – 11:15am**

### **Prescribing power standing wheelchairs: Sharing our experiences**



*Kim Vien, Yooralla and the Royal Melbourne Wheelchair and Seating Clinic  
Samuel Curtis, Yooralla*

As technology advances and powered devices become more accessible, the demand for power standing wheelchairs has increased. Currently there is limited information or guidelines on the prescription of these devices.

In the space where the demand forces us to go into the unknown, how do we go about prescribing technologies that explore the possibilities?

This presentation includes three case studies of the prescription journey with three different users with Cerebral Palsy. It describes the possible benefits of power standing devices and how this is integrated with wheelchair prescription. We take a look at the relationship between the occupational therapy and physiotherapy roles and how the combined approach can maximise the user's experience.

We will outline prescription guidelines we developed based on our learnings and the current evidence. This includes details of prescription process from assessment to the implementation of a powered standing device.



**11:45am – 12:15pm**

### **Stand up! The clinical benefits of standing**



*Paul Everett, Jenx*



Standing frames are commonly used as part of postural management programmes to provide a number of physiological and psychosocial benefits for children with neuromuscular and motor impairment. Benefits can be wide-ranging and include improved posture, ROM, digestion and hip stability. Maintaining hip integrity for children with neuromuscular impairment is a key multidisciplinary aim amongst postural management teams. Clinical evidence shows that standing in a high degree of abduction can lead to better formation of the hip joint and significantly reduces hip migration in children with Cerebral Palsy. This presentation will cover the clinical benefits of standing and will explore the different typologies of standing frames available to support clinicians in their decision-making process.



**1:15pm - 2:00pm**

## **Knowing what we know, and what we don't**



*Angela Rowe, Monash Health*



A large healthcare organisation mapped out existing wheelchair services and evaluated current knowledge gaps in the clinical skills of its therapists. It identified that standards and models of practice for wheelchair prescription were variable amongst services and highly clinician dependent. In response, the organisation set out to define performance expectations for wheelchair assessment and prescription and ensure a minimal level of consistency among therapists. It collaboratively created a benchmark to support clinical skill development in wheelchair prescription and a training pathway to build staff capacity and optimise patient centred care.



**3:15pm - 4:00pm**

## **Dynamic posture control whilst standing - A revolution**



*Felicity Parkinson, R82 Australia*



Most standing aids are static. This means that learning from movement experienced by other children who have reached this milestone, is very difficult. Dynamic standing frames can now be used to bridge the gap between standing and walking for children who use a simple standing frame to support an upright posture. Research has shown children develop postural control from top down, establishing control segment by segment. Developing dynamic posture control is an important learning experience and prepares a child for taking their next steps towards walking.



## ROOM 3



**9:15am - 10:00am**

## **Client centred prescriptions: You say it, but are you doing it?**



*Alli Hyde, Linds - Motion Composites*



When prescribing equipment, we try to be as client centered as possible. How much of your prescription would you say is actually based on the client opinion and knowledge? How much is the therapist opinion and knowledge? How much is the dealers opinion or motive? Or how much is based on the funding source? This presentation will review the process of a wheelchair prescription while managing the client, therapist, dealer and funding sources interests. We will review therapeutic models and college standards which highlight the therapist goals and responsibility as well as strategies to manage all priorities and opinions.



**10:45am - 11:15am**

## **Dose dependency of activity based therapy on independence, mobility**

*Jessica Hansson, Spinal Cord Injuries Australia*

This client has been attending NeuroMoves for Activity Based Therapy (ABT) for 2 hours per week between 2012 and 2016, during 2017 this has increased between 6-9 hours of ABT and Strength and Conditioning (SC). This has established a 15% increase in Spinal Cord Independence Measure (SCIM), 66% increase in mobility, 13% increase in sitting balance, and 22% increase in shoulder Active Range of Motion (AROM). Demonstrating that an increase in dose has a positive relationship on independence, mobility, sitting balance and shoulder mobility.



**11:45am - 12:15pm**

## **Animal assisted therapy: A case study on the use of a therapy dog to enhance occupational therapy**



*Renee Jenkins*



Renee (OT) and Macey (Therapy Dog) help people achieve their goals through Animal Assisted Therapy.





**1:15pm - 2:00pm**

### **Learning through moving: Pediatric mobility**



*Magdalena Love, Permobil*



Motor skills develop rapidly during a child's first three years of life, and they provide a means for exploration of the environment and socialisation with others. For children with neuromuscular or musculoskeletal impairments, an inability to move independently limits exploration that is vital for development. Power mobility devices may be necessary to allow children to move independently within their environment. However, power wheelchairs are often viewed as a last resort. This session will look at the current evidence behind mobility interventions for young children. Particular emphasis will be put on how utilising powered mobility early in life can improve exploration, socialisation, and development. Additionally, this session will review low tech and high tech options for using powered mobility within a child-friendly context.

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**2:30pm - 3:00pm**

### **Good practice in AT - resources from ARATA's community of practice**

*Rachael Schmidt, Schmidt Consulting & Natasha Layton, ARATA*

The Australian Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology Association, known as ARATA, is a national peak body including a wide range of AT stakeholders, such as: AT users and consumers, AT practitioners from all allied health professions, AT suppliers, vendors and manufacturers, AT researchers and educators, policymakers, funders and others.

ARATA supports and promotes best practice for rehabilitation and assistive technology provision in Australia by:

1. Serving as a peak body and national forum for rehabilitation and assistive technology stakeholders;
2. Undertaking, supporting and promoting scientific, literary, professional and educational activities; and
3. Promoting active participation of AT users in the community, across the lifespan.

Presented by members of ARATA's Board and Community of Practice, we share our practice resources, and strategies used to argue for excellence in person-centred AT policy in Australia.

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**3:15pm - 4:00pm**

### **Pressure care and prevention of shoulder injuries - lived lessons**



*Malcolm Turnbull, Permobil*

In 1980 Mal's life changed for ever as a result of a motor vehicle accident. At the age of 19 the reality of pressure injury as a spinal cord injured person came into sharp focus. 37 years later skin integrity is even more of a priority as the wear and tear on shoulders impacts on functional ability. This talk is about how the research and science that continues to evolve regards pressure and shoulder injuries has been applied for the long haul of life with a spinal cord injury. It will draw on lived experiences, observed experiences and the vital link between research, best practice and the application in real life.

## ROOM 4



**9:15am - 10:00am**

### **Posture vs Function in clients**



*Amy Bjornson, Sunrise Medical*

Position is a general term for a configuration of the human body body segments in relation to other body segments. Posture is an intentionally or habitually assumed position. Posture is dynamic and normally is altered for activities or tasks. But with wheelchair seating, we are often asking our clients to sit in one position, independent of the task at hand. This workshop will look at what the textbooks tell us is proper positioning but then investigate when and how to deviate so that our recommendations work in the real world, with real people and carers and changing situations.

This case study based workshop will explore our practices in seating system and wheelchair provision: when what the team considers the optimal solution for a given client doesn't meet their expectations or just simply isn't going to work. When that typical solution is not possible, we must have a Plan B. We will explore the why and when of compromise and how to find a safe and effective solution.



**10:45am - 11:15am**

### **Make my home accessible... yesterday**



*Tracee-lee Maginnity, Astris Lifecare*



Independent access in the home often requires significant permanent and costly structural changes. Are there alternatives? Not everyone wants to change their home, what if your renting and need to change residence in near future, what if your waiting for funding or construction to commence, what if you share your time between multiple residences? What other options could you consider? This workshop looks at some of the interim and alternative options to make your bathroom accessible and to maximise independence in a non-modified bathroom.

This workshop looks at a variety of assistive technology solutions and considerations for their use, from basic bathboards to slider commode systems. Short term and long term potential solutions will be discussed from a client centred and cost effective approach.



**11:45am - 12:15pm**

### **How are surfaces and shapes important to prevent pressure sores?**



*Eugenio Maria Cometto, Ormesa, Italy*



The contact surfaces shape and the material type which they are made of, are very crucial issues to figure out better the consequences on the skin integrity of the users sitting on a wheelchair. More, we have to consider how a contact surfaces can grant breathability and moisture absence, in order to avoid the increasing skin temperature and local humidity. In this study, demonstrates that a particular backrest shape (a V-shape) can work decreasing significantly the interface pressure on the user's skin, even without using a specific antidecubitus cushion (for those patients with no so high level of risk, according to Braden and Waterlow Scale).



**1:15pm - 2:00pm**

### **OT Australia panel**



*Jessica Hall, National OT, Heidi Long, National OT, Tanja Brunner, Community Based Occupational Therapist and and Bronwyn Stephen, Quality Lifestyle Solutions*

An interactive session where a panel of experienced occupational therapists will discuss the role of occupational therapy in the assistive technology and home modifications assessment and prescription process. The panel will be available for Q & As with audience members. We will invite you to pre-submit your questions to facilitate a broad range of audience members' queries being addressed.



**2:30pm - 3:00pm**

### **Learning through inclusive play for children with ALL abilities!**



*Mandy Lau, Reach and Match*



In the mainstream learning environment, children with differing abilities are facing a significant challenge in learning and interacting with their peers. As educators and parents, we need to understand the social and physical needs of children with disabilities in order to develop an inclusive learning environment. Inclusion is difficult to achieve, especial among children with special needs.

Mandy will share her postgraduate research in early literacy, early intervention & inclusion. The user-centric design methodologies and the applications of the award-winning Reach & Match Inclusive Learning Program which developed with the multidisciplinary specialists, helps children with all abilities to learn through inclusive play.



**3:15pm - 4:00pm**

### **Wheelchair cushions - The science behind the clinical choices**



*Curt Prewitt, Ki Mobility, LLC*



This presentation will look at the human anatomy, and the various forces that act upon it in seated postures. Specific attention will be given to the optimal management of those forces when designing an optimal seating interface, taking into account the management of surface tension, designing in pre-contouring, and accounting for the variations in human dimensions from one individual to another. Immersion, envelopment and loading will each be investigated in depth and reference will be made to measurements of forces, both in magnitude and direction, all of which will point to how seating design, and material choice can mitigate or optimally use those forces for improved outcome.

## **Thursday 17 May 2018**

### **ROOM 1**



**9:15am - 10:00am**

### **Improving the participant and provider experience of capital supports under the NDIS**



*Lloyd Walker, NDIS*

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) has been rolling out across Australia since July 2016. The high demand for assistive technology by participants has stretched the National Disability Insurance Agency's (NDIA) systems and processes in place to make decisions about reasonable and necessary funding. The NDIA is currently developing improved ways to prepare and approve plans for participants that will help to streamline these processes for AT and home modification supports, and reduce the administrative burden on participants and providers. This presentation will explain these changes for the AT sector.



**10:45am - 11:15am**

### **Computer & device hands-free access**



*Tracey Bode, Zyteq*



If the standard keyboard and mouse are difficult to use, alternative access to computers, tablets and devices can ensure ongoing operation and control.

A selection of the current range of mouse alternatives including head-tracking devices and eye-gaze will be demonstrated and evaluated in relation to user application.

Parameters to be considered are overall efficiency of access, range of movement, accessibility settings, device platform and client suitability.



**11:45am - 12:30pm**



## **Power wheelchair assessments - How modular drive control mounting systems can save time and improve accuracy of prescription**

*Russ Rolt, Active Controls*

We often struggle to find the ideal drive control and to position it in the best location for our wheelchair clients, then hope that it can be duplicated upon delivery. Hard-wired controls offer little opportunity to compare and contrast different controls or different mounting options without time-consuming installations or tiresome client transfers. Rarely can we trial more than two options during the short time allotted by funding sources for the wheelchair assessment.

Modular drive controls are now in use at some of the leading wheelchair clinics, hospitals and special schools which have improved the efficiency and the efficacy of assessments, often making the client and clinician experience more rewarding. In many cases, modular alternative drive controls make it possible for more people to successfully operate a power wheelchair, even for those whom we thought could never experience powered mobility independence.

This hands-on instructional course will demonstrate eight different modular mounting platforms for alternative drive controls for use by the finger, hand, chin, tongue, or head set-up on a power wheelchair. Discover how to assess a clients ability to drive a power chair successfully in less time, with less fatigue, and help assure similar success upon delivery.

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**1:30pm - 2:15pm**



## **Postural and behavioural harnesses**

*Chen Liu, Mobility Engineering*



With the ever complicated world of Assistive Transport and the Restrictive Practices Act, this session aims to educate the attendee on the difference between Postural and Behavioural Harnesses, identifying the various styles, designs and uses of each. It will focus on the specific uses for both Postural and Behavioural Harnesses and use case-study examples to demonstrate the reason for using the various harnesses for the clients, showing both vehicle and client considerations. It will also cover all related transport laws and regulations along with expected responsibilities and liabilities, which must be considered in addition to health based regulations.

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**2:45pm - 3:15pm**



## **Prevention is better than cure! Exploring postural care and body shape distortion in young children with physical disability**

*Denise Luscombe, Dept of Communities*

Body shape distortions continue to be a significant area of concern when working with children and adults with physical disability. Although the quality and diversity of intervention strategies and assistive technology has improved significantly, we continue to see the development of body shape distortions in this population. This presentation will utilise a case study format to highlight the principles of postural care, and key areas to analyse in regards to preventing body shape distortions in young children (with a particular focus on the pelvis, hips and chest). Importantly, it will provide the clinician with a framework for putting the knowledge presented into clinical practice immediately.

## ROOM 2



**9:15am - 10:00am**

### **Avoiding random gravity tests**



*David Sutton, Bilby shoes*



Footwear is the last thing touching the ground before most falls. They can also be the cause of many falls. How do we improve your stability and reduce your falls risk?



Sometimes its as simple as selecting the right footwear whilst other times it's about the modifications for your footwear to reduce your risk.

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**10:45am - 11:15am**

### **Why weight matters**



*Alli Hyde, Linds - Motion Composites*



Wheelchair manufacturers often promote having the lightest wheelchairs made of the lightest materials. Does this matter? And, if so how much? Understanding the benefits of a lighter wheelchair is important for the user and anyone involved in the wheelchair industry.

There is research evidence which suggests a lighter wheelchair will be easier to propel and clinical practice guidelines support the use of the lightest adjustable wheelchair available for upper limb function preservation. There is also evidence indicating wheelchair non-use among older adults is linked to wheelchair weight and weight impacts the user or caregiver who must lift the wheelchair.

Knowing and understanding the evidence-based recommendations for wheelchair weight, configuration and set-up are essential for anyone using, prescribing or selling wheelchairs. Making informed decisions when ordering a wheelchair and selecting components as well as adhering to best practice recommendations during set up can result in big benefits for the user and the caregiver.

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**11:45am - 12:30pm**

### **Power and terrain add-ons - Who, when, where and why?**

*Jenni Dabelstein, Gizmo Rehabilitation*

One of the biggest advances in manual mobility AT over the past 5 years has been the proliferation of power and terrain add-ons for manual wheelchairs. There is a whole world of options out there and clinicians are regularly being asked to evaluate the clinical appropriateness of these devices, and then justify them to funding bodies. Like most complex AT prescription, these devices require a goal driven, strategic approach to prescription and a clear understanding of technical elements. Get a clinician's perspective on how to evaluate, trial, prescribe and justify power and terrain add-ons for your clients.

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**1:30pm - 2:15pm**

### **Improving the participant and provider experience of capital supports under the NDIS**



*Lloyd Walker, NDIS*

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) has been rolling out across Australia since July 2016. The high demand for assistive technology by participants has stretched the National Disability Insurance Agency's (NDIA) systems and processes in place to make decisions about reasonable and necessary funding. The NDIA is currently developing improved ways to prepare and approve plans for participants that will help to streamline these processes for AT and home modification supports, and reduce the administrative burden on participants and providers. This presentation will explain these changes for the AT sector.

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 **2:45pm - 3:15pm**  
**Standing and gait training - complementary goals for functional outcomes**

 *Jane Crowle, PME Group*

 Standing and gait training are often considered to be independently exclusive goals for clients with physical impairments. Independent mobility is a key milestone in a child's life which lays the foundations for experience, participation, growth, and development of skills including gross motor, spatial awareness and socio-emotional awareness. There are many schools of thought on whether a child must crawl before they stand and walk. What we do know is that they need to stand before they walk. With the advancement of technology – such as body weight supported gait, robotic assisted treadmill training and the developing exo-skeleton – gait training is fast becoming an option for many clients who were previously excluded from such an activity. As exciting as this advancement in technology is, there are many pre-requisites required for safe and effective gait training. Standing and gait training cannot be separated from each other. They are not mutually exclusive. This presentation looks at the pre-requisites required for safe and effective gait, and how standing and gait training complement each other for maximum functional outcomes.

## ROOM 3

 **9:15am - 10:00am**  
**Honey I shrunk the kits**

 *Barend ter Haar, Healthcare Innovations Australia*

  
 Frequently equipment for children is designed by adults on the basis that scaling down adult equipment will suffice. This presentation looks at why this is not the best of plans, in that the specific clinical and social needs of children need to be addressed: the aim of this presentation is to appraise the range of aspects that need to be brought into focus when designing equipment for children. These include physical growth, cognitive development, social needs, educational needs, family needs (which would apply to any children's equipment), and then from the areas we work in, what are the specific needs generated by the cause and effects of the disability we are meeting.

 **10:45am - 11:15am**  
**Where is assistive technology in Australia's aged care reforms?**

*Natasha Layton, Swinburne University*

Assistive technology (AT) is a key strategy to enable health and wellbeing. The National Aged Care Alliance (NACA) 'AT for Older Australians' project:

- Provides an overview of the economic effectiveness of AT for elders
- Identifies the AT needs of older Australians (by demographics and disability type)
- Maps the types of AT required by older Australians
- Evaluates current AT provision policies and models against need
- Considers future AT policy for older Australians

 **11:45am - 12:30pm**  
**Creating sound foundations promoting a life of good posture for your paediatric client**

  
*Amy Bjornson, Sunrise Medical*

  
 The early stages of a child's development are critical in many ways. It's a time of motoric, cognitive and social development which ultimately shapes the adult. The research is definitive: mobility and inclusion helps drive all development. Well prescribed seating systems and mobility devices improve client outcomes significantly by promoting motoric development and improving function, reducing fatigue, helping concentration and, ultimately, improving inclusion and participation.

This session will discuss equipment selection rationale and options available. We'll look specifically at equipment strategies to manage tone, poor head control, and excessive movement patterns. We will stimulate thought and exploration with case studies.



**1:30pm - 2:15pm**

### **Advances in smart technologies for people living with dementia**



*Zoe du Cann, LifeTec*



Smart assistive technologies (SAT) offer opportunities to people living with dementia and their caregivers to remain in their own homes, stay socially connected, and engage in meaningful activity and community life. However many people may be unaware of the range of SAT available, and may experience challenges with choosing, implementation and the ongoing management of smart technologies.

This presentation overviews the advances in smart technology which offer potential benefits and opportunities to people living with dementia in their own home. Real life stories of people living with dementia and their caregivers offer insights into what people want and need when implementing smart technologies.



**2:45pm - 3:15pm**

### **Transforming a functional wheelchair into something truly amazing**



*Samuel Baker, Ottobock*



Successfully scripting a customised wheelchair can be something of an art form, but it's critical for achieving the best outcome for your client. Using live and pre-recorded equipment demonstrations we will review the functional, social, and aesthetic impacts of different chair configurations.

We will discuss the finer points of front frame angles, seat dump, taper, back height, wheel camber, push rims, material choice, tips for weight reduction, variations for sports, and much more. Understanding these aspects and their effects will allow you to transform a functional chair into something truly amazing.

## **ROOM 4**



**9:15am - 10:00am**

### **Face-to-face contact for the socially isolated elderly or disabled: Breakthrough technologies and case study insights**



*John Nakulski, Konnekt*



The elderly and disabled are socially isolated. 41-46% are depressed. Half are unsatisfied with family communications. Face-to-face contact 3 times per week, with family and friends can reduce isolation, halving depression risk and mitigating poor sleep, blood pressure and functional decline. Social relationships encourage healthy habits, diet, exercise and medication compliance.

Even though 82% desire video communications, the digital revolution has left most older people behind particularly those with poor sight, hearing or dexterity.

We review the latest social tools and technologies. We compare available products and services, and offer guidance for recommending a needs-based solution.

Our three heart-warming case studies David, Graham and June will amuse and perhaps surprise you. We cover iPads, laptops, robotic walking tablets, and technologies custom-built to help the elderly remain independent. We show where many attempts fail, and provide simple insights for making technology work without spending a fortune or calling in the IT Guy.



**10:45am - 11:15am**

### **Biofeedback - lights, cameras, more action!**



*Steve Woollard, NeuroRehab Allied Health Network*



Recent research has clearly identified that therapy using Biofeedback provides greater improvements in a neurological rehabilitation efforts than standard Physio/OT alone. Join Steve Woollard, Neurological Physiotherapist with over 20 years experience, as he shares his knowledge in this exciting area of therapy. Learn about a few new options you could take back to your workplace with practical demonstrations using some of the latest technology in biofeedback.



**11:45am - 12:30pm**

## **OT Australia panel**



*Jessica Hall, National OT, Heidi Long, National OT, Tanja Brunner, Community Based Occupational Therapist and Bronwyn Stephen, Quality Lifestyle Solutions*

An interactive session where a panel of experienced occupational therapists will discuss the role of occupational therapy in the assistive technology and home modifications assessment and prescription process.

The panel will be available for Q & As with audience members. We will invite you to pre-submit your questions to facilitate a broad range of audience members' queries being addressed.

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**1:30pm - 2:15pm**

## **A decision making model for complex assistive technology prescription: in four parts**



*Rachael Schmidt, Schmidt Consulting*

A four part decision-making model highlights a clinical pathway designed to assist all stakeholders selecting assistive technology for complex disability. The decision-making model integrates evidence-based strategies for facilitating informed person-centred decision making during complex assistive technology selection/intervention. The model design is informed by data extrapolated from two evidence-based research activities: an in-depth case study into sixty Australians' experiences of complex wheelchair-seating service/procurement and a critique of 24 hour Posture Positioning & [wheelchair] Seating intervention effectiveness.

The four part decision-making model provides a transparent service pathway, evaluates influential factors in person-centred decision making, defines strategies for building collaborative decision making partnerships and evaluates consumer satisfaction and complex assistive technology service effectiveness. The presentation aims to integrate evidence-based strategies for facilitating person-directed decision-making when seeking assistive technology solutions according to individual complex needs. This new knowledge assists building decision-making confidence during complex assistive technology assessment-prescription, provision and evaluation of consumer satisfaction.

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**2:45pm - 3:15pm**

## **Care by one. Strategies and techniques for single carer transfers with less risk and better outcomes through the intelligent application of AT**



*Andy Cuddihy, Patient Handling / TA Service*



In 2015, almost 2.7 million Australians were unpaid carers (11.6%) (ABS, 2015). They enable many of the 4.3 million people with a disability in Australia to remain in their own home. However, injuries amongst care givers are high and manual handling injuries account for 29% of all the workplace injuries (Workcover, 2012). In addition care in the home offers challenges when physical spaces are not designed for the care tasks required.

Injuries occur with increased exposure to manual handling. Equipment solutions have proven to be an effective way of reducing this exposure to manual handling. Innovation is booming in the manual handling sector with new equipment options being created all the time. Many of these equipment solutions can lead to a reduction in number of care workers needed by the person with a disability to perform transfers. This can enable 'Care by one' - in other words care to be provided by one care giver. With the commencement of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), the ability to provide care by one care giver means the person with the disability can save significant amounts of money in their care budget.

This workshop will outline ways in which the clever use of equipment solutions that eliminate manual handling and so create opportunities for care to safely and efficiently be provided by one:

Participants will be able to profit from all the opportunities innovation in manual handling provides to enable them avoid manual handling and provide 'Care by one'.



# CONFIRMED EXHIBITORS

Showcasing products and services designed to get more out of life include:

- AC Mobility
- AccessComm
- Access Mobility
- Accommodation & Care Solutions
- Acorn Stairlifts
- Active Adaptive by Splittbacks
- Afikim Electric Vehicles
- Aidacare
- AILA (Australian Independent Living Aids)
- Ambassador Products
- Astris Lifecare
- Automobility
- Availcare
- Blue Badge
- Bluesky Healthcare
- BPM Australia
- BrightSky Australia
- Brolly Sheets
- Canterbury Concepts
- Cobalt Health
- Coloplast
- Country Care Group
- Crescent Healthcare
- Dejay
- Deutscher Healthcare
- Drive Medical
- DRP International
- Fisher Lane Mobility / Karma Wheelchairs
- Freedom Healthcare
- Freedom Motors
- Geelong Wheelchair Service
- Gong Life Care Solutions
- Handi-Rehab
- Healthcare Innovations
- Hireup
- HMR Healthcare
- Industrial Dynamics
- Invacare
- Jadco Time
- Juvo Solutions
- K Care
- Kevrek
- Konnekt
- Liberty Healthcare
- Life Mobility
- Linak Australia
- Linds Rehabilitation Equipment
- Link AT
- Lodgesons
- Magic Mobility
- Medifab
- Medix 21
- Melrose Wheelchairs
- Merits Australia
- Metro Train
- Middy's Smart Centre
- Mobile Alert
- Mobility Aids Australia
- Mobility Engineering
- MobilityCare
- Mobilty Plus Wheelchairs
- NeuroMoves/SCIA
- NeuroRehab Allied Health Network
- Novis Healthcare
- Ottobock
- Para Mobility
- Paragon Mobility
- Patient Handling
- Performance Health
- Permobil
- Personal Independence Providers
- PME Group
- Postural innovations
- Premier Healthcare Solutions
- Prestige Inhome Care
- Pride Mobility
- Quality Life Technologies Co
- Quantum Rehab
- Quantum RLV
- Quingo Pacific
- Quintro Healthcare
- R82 AU Pty Ltd
- RBA Group
- Rehab Assist
- RGK
- Scooters & Mobility
- Simavita
- Simply Helping
- Sleep Doctor
- Solve Disability Solutions
- Special Needs Solutions
- Specialised Wheelchair Company
- SPIRE
- Sunrise Medical
- Tab Timer
- Talking Mats
- The Bidet Shop
- The Rehabilitation Centre
- The Rhythm Village
- Total Ability
- Trek Mobility
- TVBM Ltd
- Tyrex
- Wellspect Healthcare
- Wentworth Care Furniture
- WILA-Innovations
- Zyteq



# HOW TO GET THERE

## Melbourne Showgrounds Epsom Rd, Ascot Vale Victoria

Located just 7km from Melbourne CBD and 15 minutes from Melbourne Airport, Melbourne Showgrounds is easily accessible by public transport or car.



### ARRIVING BY TRAIN:

ATSA will be running a FREE shuttle from New Market station from 8am each morning, running every 30 minutes.



### ARRIVING BY BUS:

Bus No. 472 (Williamstown to Moonee Ponds) stops along Langs Road and Epsom Road. Bus No. 404 (Footscray to Moonee Ponds) stops on the corner of Epsom and Ascot Vale Roads. Enter via Gate 1 on Epsom Road.



### ARRIVING BY TRAM:

Tram No. 57 (West Maribyrnong to Elizabeth Street, City) stops at the main entrance (Gate 1) of Melbourne Showgrounds on Epsom Road.



### ARRIVING BY CAR:

Enter via Gate 5 on Langs Road. Free parking if pre-registered.

# PRE REGISTER NOW TO RECEIVE:



FREE ENTRY



FREE PARKING



FREE COFFEE



FREE  
CONFERENCE  
PROGRAM

## Easy ways to register:



Visit [www.atsaindependentlivingexpo.com.au](http://www.atsaindependentlivingexpo.com.au) and register online



Phone 1300 789 845

## Opening hours:

Wednesday 16 May 8:30am-4:00pm

Thursday 17 May 8:30am-3:15pm

## Organised By

Interpoint Events Pty Ltd in conjunction with  
ATSA Assistive Technology Suppliers Australasia.

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