

AEDTRC Eating Disorders Think Tank 2025
‘Coming Together to Advance Science and Understanding’

PROGRAM -Thursday 29 May 2025 - Day One

Time	Format	Venue Location
9:00am – 10:30am: Opening Plenary		
9:00am – 9:15am	Conference Open - Welcome to Country - Recognition of Lived Experience	
9:20am – 9.30am	Ministerial Opening Address	
9.25-9.35	Introduction to Co-Production throughout Think Tank 2025	
9.35am – 10:30am	<p>Keynote Speaker: Professor Cheri Levinson</p> <p>Presentation: <i>Individualising our understanding and treatment of eating disorders; people and mechanisms</i></p> <p><i>Professor Cheri A. Levinson is a Professor at the University of Louisville and Director of the Eating Anxiety Treatment (EAT) Lab. She is also the Founder and Clinical Director of the Louisville Center for Eating Disorders and Vice Chair of the Kentucky Eating Disorder Council. Her research focuses on developing technology-based treatments for eating disorders, with over 135 publications and multiple clinical trials. She specialises in evidence-based treatments for eating disorders, OCD, and anxiety. Prof Levinson trained at UNC’s Center of Excellence in Eating Disorders and Washington University in St. Louis, where she earned her PhD in psychology</i></p>	
10:30am – 11:00am	Morning Tea	

11:00am – 1:00pm: Session One: ‘Prevention and Intervention’	
11:05am – 11:35pm	<p>Speaker: Professor Jennie Hudson</p> <p>Presentation: <i>Anxiety in children and young people - trends and latest findings</i></p>
11:35pm – 12:05pm	<p>Associate Professor Emily Stockings</p> <p>Presentation: <i>National programs for substance use and mental health prevention in schools</i></p>
12:05pm – 12:35pm	<p>Professor Susan Rossell</p> <p>Presentation: <i>Investigating innovative treatments for Body Dysmorphic Disorder</i></p>
12:35pm – 1:00pm	<p>THINK TANKING SESSION 1</p> <p>Interactive discussion with the audience to review and ideate the three presentations as they relate to prevention and very early intervention in eating disorders.</p> <p>Moderator: Professor Leah Brennan</p>
1:00pm – 1:45pm	Lunch
1:45pm – 3:00pm: Workshop One	
<p>How to think about working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in research contexts</p> <p>Facilitator: Leilani Darwin</p> <p>Presenter: Uncle Bo</p>	
3:00pm – 3:30pm	Afternoon Tea

3:30pm – 5:30pm – Session Two: Biological Determinants and the Underpinnings of Binge Eating Disorder	
3:35pm – 4:05pm	<p>Dr Trevor Steward Presentation: <i>Harnessing 7-Telsa MRI to map brain mechanisms underlying disordered eating behaviours</i></p>
4:05pm – 4:35pm	<p>Associate Professor Robyn Brown Presentation: <i>Preclinical and clinical evidence exploring the potential of N-acetylcysteine as a pharmacotherapy for compulsive eating</i></p>
4:35pm – 5:05pm	<p>Associate Professor Morgan James Presentation: <i>Eat, sleep, repeat: The urgent need to better understand sleep dysregulation in eating disorders</i></p>
5:05pm – 5:30pm	<p>THINK TANKING SESSION 2</p> <p>Interactive discussion with the audience to review and ideate the three presentations as they relate to the biological determinants and the underpinnings of binge eating disorder research</p> <p>Moderator: Dr Claire Foldi</p>
5:30pm – 6:30pm	<p>Networking Drinks</p>
End of Day One	

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PROGRAM - Friday 30 May 2025 – Day Two

Time	Format	Venue Location
7:30am – 8:30am - Supporting Eating Disorder Organisations with Research and Evaluation		
<p>Optional early morning session offered to eating disorder sector organisations and clinical service providers</p> <p><i>This exclusive event is being offered to eating disorder sector organisations and clinical service providers, to support evaluation and research planning within your organisation. Delegates to arrive at 7:00am for a 7:30am start. Tea and coffee on arrival with a selection of pastries offered. Delegates to indicate at time of registration their attendance. Limited numbers</i></p>		
9:00am – 10:40am – Opening Session Day Two		
9:00am – 9:10am	Welcome and Open Day Two	
9:10am – 10:10am	<p>Professor Luke Wolfenden</p> <p>Presentation: <i>Implementation science and the discovery translation pipeline in the primary prevention of chronic disease</i></p> <p><i>Professor Luke Wolfenden is and NHMRC Fellow and Director of the ‘National Centre of Implementation Science’ and of the WHO Evidence Informed Policy Network at the University of Newcastle and co-Director of Cochranes Thematic Group ‘People, health systems and Public Health. He is passionate about the use of evidence to improve public health decision making and ensuring that evidence-based policies are well implemented so they can benefit those for whom they are intended.</i></p>	
Lightning Round Presentations		

Time	Format	Venue Location
10:10am – 10:20am	Presenter TBA	
10:20am – 10:30am	Presenter TBA	
10:30am – 10:40am	Presenter TBA	
10:40am – 11:10am	Morning Tea	
11:10am – 1:15pm – Session Four: Methodology, Conceptualisation & Epistemology		
11:15am – 11:45pm	Professor Nick Haslam Presentation: <i>Spreading the word: How concepts of mental ill health have broadened, and why it matters</i>	
11:45am – 12:15pm	Associate Professor Xochitl de la Piedad Garcia Presentation: <i>Experienced, Internalised and anticipated weight stigma in eating disorders</i>	
12:15pm – 12:45pm	Dr Matt Varidel Presentation: <i>Machine Learning and causal mental health models</i>	
12:45pm – 1:15pm	THINK TANK SESSION 3 Interactive discussion with the audience to review and ideate the three presentations as they relate to scientific thinking and methodology in research focusing on eating disorders Moderator: Professor Elizabeth Rieger	
1:15pm – 2:00pm	Lunch	

Time	Format	Venue Location
2:00pm – 3:00pm: Panel		
2:00pm-3:00pm	<p>Advancing Eating Disorder Research Through Lived Experience Partnerships A discussion led by lived experience contributors, reflecting on participation, co-design, peer research, and impact across the research lifecycle.</p> <p>Facilitator: Shannon Calvert</p> <p>Panellists: Amaya Alvarez Melissa Keller Tuberg Sam Ikin Bronwyn Carroll</p>	
3:00pm-3:30pm	<p>Bringing it all together - Interactive Co-Production and Padlet summary session</p> <p>Facilitators: Professor Genevieve Pepin and Dr Sanna Barrand</p>	
3:30pm – 4:00pm	Afternoon Tea	
4:00pm – 5:00pm – Closing Session		
Event Highlight: Debate on a Controversial Topic		
4:00pm – 4:45pm	<p>The Great Debate – ‘<i>Young People should be able to access social media under 16 years.</i>’</p> <p>Moderator: Dr Beth Shelton</p>	
4:45pm – 5:00pm	Wrap Up and Closing	

Time	Format	Venue Location
End of Conference		