



3 – 5 September 2025

# WORKING THROUGH ETHICAL CHALLENGES; FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE

16th National Paediatric Bioethics Conference



## 16th National Paediatric Bioethics Conference Program

3- 5 September, Ella Latham Theatre | The Royal Children's Hospital

Wednesday 3rd September 2025	
12:00 – 12:30	<b>Conference Opening</b> Chair: Professor John Massie Opening: Peter Steer, CEO, RCH Welcome to Country - Wurundjeri Elder Colin Hunter
12:30 - 1:30PM	<b>Grand Rounds and Opening Keynote</b> Chair: Professor Lynn Gillam  Socrates in the clinic: the role of ethical analysis in health care Prof John McMillan, Bioethics Centre, University of Otago
1:30 - 2:15pm	LUNCH BREAK
2:15 – 3:45pm	<b>Session 2: Thinking About the Child</b> Chair: A/Prof Michelle Telfer, Paediatrician and Adolescent Medicine Physician/Chief of Medicine RCH  <b>Reconstituting the child</b> Anne Preisz (Clinical Ethicist), Nadia Rajabalee (Clinical Ethics Fellow), and Phil Britton (Paediatrician) – Sydney Children's Hospital Network at Westmead  <b>An imagined life: but whose imagination?</b> Adam Rozsa (Neurovascular Clinical Nurse) and John Massie (Clinical Director, CBC) – RCH  <b>Thinking about the child as future adult</b>  Panel: Simone Huntingford (Neonatologist, RCH), Kate Irving (Neurologist, RCH), Natalie McCallum (Physiotherapist, RCH)
3:45 - 4:00PM	BREAK
4:00 - 5:00pm	<b>Session 3: Where do parents fit in?</b> Chair: Giuliana Antolovich, Neurodevelopment and Disability
4:00 – 4:30pm	<b>"The Squeaky Wheel" An ethical approach to finding the balance between addressing parental concerns and managing excessive demands</b> Ciara Earley (General Paediatrician) – Monash Children's Hospital
4:30 – 5:00pm	<b>Accessing respite care for children with Neurodisability and their families - the ethical undercurrents of idealism versus the reality of needing and having help</b> Ingrid Sutherland (Clinical Nurse Consultant) and Erin Georgiou (Occupational Therapist) - RCH



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6:00 – 7:30PM

**Friends of the CBC Hypothetical** RCH Foundation, 48 Flemington Rd

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## Thursday 4th September 2025

7:30 - 8:30AM	<b>MSA Breakfast</b> - Vernon Collins Theatre  <b>Pain prevention and treatment as a human right</b> <b>Prof Stefan Friedrichsdorf</b> , UCSF Benioff Children's Hospitals in San Francisco and Oakland
9:00 - 10:30am	<b>Session 4: Society-level issues</b> <b>Chair: Amy Gray, Consultant, RCH</b>
9:00 – 9:30am	<b>Is two, one too many? A case discussion looking at the ethical considerations of resources allocation in Multiple-Organ Transplant recipients</b> <b>Mark Oliver</b> (Paediatric Gastroenterologist) and <b>Elly Law</b> (Clinical Nurse Specialist) – RCH
9:30 – 10:00am	<b>Between a Jab and a Hard Place: The Moral and Ethical Dilemmas of Childhood Vaccine Exemptions</b> <b>Bianca Devsam</b> (PhD Candidate) – University of Melbourne
10:00 – 10:30am	<b>The role of justice as an ethical principle underpinning the fair distribution of resources in resource rich healthcare environments</b> <b>Kate Middleton</b> (Neurodevelopment and Disability Fellow) – RCH
10:30 – 11.00am	BREAK
11.00am - 12:00pm	<b>Session 5: Ethical complexities</b> <b>Chair: Sarah Connolly, Director Allied Health, RCH</b>
11:00 – 11:30am	<b>When less is more: Chest physiotherapy in end-stage lung disease in children with a neuro-disability</b> <b>Lisa Robson</b> (Physiotherapist), <b>Adrian Whitman</b> (Physiotherapist) and <b>Sarah Loveday</b> (Paediatrician) - RCH
11:30am – 12:00pm	<b>"If you hit someone with a frying pan, it's not cooking!!!"</b> <b>Dani Gold</b> (Senior Social Worker) and <b>Anna Lucia</b> (Senior Social Worker) – RCH
12:00 – 1.00PM	Lunch Break
1.00 – 2.00 PM	<b>Session 6: Keynote Speaker</b> <b>A/Prof Rosalind McDougall, University of Melbourne</b> <b>How can we make better ethical decisions in practice?</b>  <b>Chair: Professor Lynn Gillam</b>
2.00 - 3:15PM	<b>Session 7: Talking with children about illness and dying</b> <b>Em/Prof Myra Bluebond-Langner University College London</b>  In discussion with Prof Lynn Gillam
3:15 - 3:45PM	BREAK
3:45 - 5:15 PM	<b>Session 8: Novel Therapies</b> <b>Chair: A/Prof Tom Connell, Chief Medical Officer, RCH</b>

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3:45 – 4:15pm

**Ethics of children with rare diseases and the resulting disability participating in commercially sponsored advanced therapy clinical trials**

**Cat Wood** (Research Nurse Coordinator) – MCRI

4:15 – 4:45pm

**Multi-stakeholder discussion to support equitable access to novel therapeutics: a guidance ethics approach**

**Katherine Lieschke** (PhD student, Stem Cell Ethics & Policy) – MCRI

**Hope in one hemisphere: The ethical landscape of hemispherectomy**

**Carolyn Pinto** (Research Associate, MCRI) and **Kelly Wilton** President of Hemispherectomy Foundation Australia

4:45 – 5:15pm

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## Friday 5th September 2025

9:30 – 11.30am	<b>Session 9: More Ethical Complexities</b> <b>Chair: TBC</b>
9:30 – 10:00am	<b>SickTok - Adolescent Illness Identity, Privacy, and the Role of the Clinician</b> Elise Burn (Clinical Nurse Consultant) – Children's Health Queensland
10:00 – 10:30am	<b>Hearing from Nurses: What's complex about Complex Care?</b> Niamh Murray (Clinical Nurse Consultant) – RCH
10:30 – 11:00am	<b>Clinical complexities in suction management - who is the 'expert'?</b> Remy Trusler (Registered Nurse) – RCH
11:00 – 11:30am	<b>Death on route to compassionate extubation location. Is it a failure?</b> Jessie Rowe (Clinical Nurse Specialist) - RCH
11:30 – 12:15pm	BREAK
12:15 – 1.15PM	<b>Session 10: Will AI Put Ethics Out of a Job?</b> <b>Chair: Clare Delany</b>  <b>Peering into the black box; can and should AI attempt moral deliberation &amp; ethical theory translation in place of clinical ethics groups?</b> Dan Mason (General Paediatrician) – RCH  <b>Panel: Prof John McMillan</b> (Bioethics Centre, University of Otago) and <b>A/Prof Ros McDougall</b> (University of Melbourne)
1:15 – 1:30PM	<b>Prizes &amp; Closing</b> <b>Prof John Massie</b>