

# MARC Symposium Program

Thursday 14 May 2026  
12.30pm – 5.30pm  
[Turning Point, Richmond 3121](#)



FROM 12.30 PM	<b>REGISTRATION AND ARRIVAL TEA AND COFFEE</b>
12.50 - 1.00 PM	<b>WELCOME AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY</b> Professor Suzanne Nielsen, Deputy Director, MARC
1.00 – 1.15 PM	<b>KEYNOTE PRESENTATION</b> <i>Academia from an ECR Perspective: Challenges, Opportunities, and Lessons Learned</i> Dr Louisa Picco, Research Fellow, MARC
1.15 – 2.40 PM	<b>SESSION 1: POLICY, POPULATION TRENDS AND DRUG HARM</b> Chair: Dr Amanda Roxburgh, Senior Research Fellow and Clinical Psychologist, Burnet Institute
	<p><b>Dr Michael Curtis</b> – <i>Exploring the impact of cheaper Opioid agonist treatment on coverage and retention among a cohort of people who inject drugs in Melbourne: Preliminary results</i></p> <p><b>Dr Ryan Baldwin</b> – <i>Looking Beyond the Headlines: Ambulance Trends After Drug Decriminalisation</i></p> <p><b>Richard Armour</b> – <i>Opportunities for Paramedic Leave-Behind Naloxone: A Retrospective Cohort Study</i></p> <p><b>Dr Amanda Roxburgh</b> – <i>The impact of regulatory changes to pharmaceutical opioid prescribing on opioid mortality in Australia</i></p> <p><b>Zachary Lloyd</b> – <i>Changes in the geographic distribution of opioid deaths in Australia</i></p> <p><b>Bell Seminiano</b> – <i>Drug-related deaths persist amongst Australian healthcare professionals: a retrospective analysis of deaths spanning 2014–2023</i></p> <p><b>Dr Georgina Lau</b> – <i>Association between pre-existing substance use conditions and patient-reported outcomes in the year after orthopaedic trauma</i></p> <p><b>Myfanwy Graham</b> – <i>A decade of cannabis-related hospital admissions in Australia (Victoria)</i></p> <p><b>Oisín Stronach</b> – <i>Longitudinal service use trajectories before methamphetamine-related death in Australia using linked administrative data</i></p>
2.40 – 3.10 PM	<b>AFTERNOON TEA / NETWORKING</b>
3.10 – 4.25 PM	<b>SESSION 2: OPTIMISING MEDICINES &amp; TREATMENTS (CONCURRENT SESSION)</b> Chair: Dr Alene Yong, Research Fellow, Centre for Medicine Use and Safety, Monash University
	<p><b>Dr Shin Liao</b> – <i>Understanding adverse drug withdrawal reactions in gabapentinoid deprescribing</i></p> <p><b>Dr Monica Jung</b> – <i>Community Pharmacists' Practices and Perspectives on Deprescribing High-Risk Psychotropic Medicines</i></p> <p><b>Amy McNeilage</b> – <i>Prevalence and patterns of non-medical gabapentinoid use in a general population sample: Findings from the Australian National Drug Strategy Household Survey</i></p> <p><b>Aimée Freeburn</b> – <i>Psilocybin-Assisted Psychotherapy (PAP) for Depression: Emerging Clinical Access, Limited Guidance – a Rapid Review</i></p> <p><b>Kirsten Lee</b> – <i>Systematic review of clinical practice guidelines and consensus statements related to ketamine and esketamine for major depressive disorder</i></p> <p><b>Myfanwy Graham</b> – <i>Psychedelics, ketamine or MDMA for mental health conditions access and outcomes: Australian longitudinal cohort study</i></p> <p><b>Dereje Assefa</b> – <i>Association of Preoperative Opioid Use Disorder and Postoperative Outcomes: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis</i></p> <p><b>Amanti Olani</b> – <i>Population-level trends in opioid agonist treatment dispensing following reforms to Australia's Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme in 2023</i></p>

3.10 – 4.25 PM	<b>SESSION 3: ALCOHOL, GAMBLING &amp; SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH (CONCURRENT SESSION)</b> Chair: Rose Laing, PhD student, MARC
	<p><b>Stijn Liem</b> – <i>Mapping the Unhealthy Commodity Ecosystem: Interdependencies, Corporate Power, and Policy Influence</i></p> <p><b>Ashani Abayasekara</b> – <i>Inequality in gambling harms in Victoria</i></p> <p><b>Rose Laing</b> – <i>Using latent profile analysis to identify psychosocial health profiles and associated risk of hazardous alcohol use within a cohort of community-dwelling adults aged 50–70</i></p> <p><b>Qiutian (Autumn) Beau</b> – <i>How we measure alcohol-related harms at a population level: A scoping review of composite indices</i></p> <p><b>Benjamin Davey</b> – <i>What is the Extent and Role of Alcohol Related Cognitive Biases in a Large Australian Community Sample of People Drinking at Harmful Levels?</i></p> <p><b>Dr Ari Roxburgh</b> – <i>Effectiveness of Controlled-Breathing Interventions on Substance Use Outcomes: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis</i></p> <p><b>Ramez Bathish</b> – <i>Recovery as habit: Examining residential drug treatment as a process of rehabilitation</i></p> <p><b>Mohammed Ahmed</b> – <i>Sentinel Surveillance of Vaping and Emerging Nicotine Product Use among University Students</i></p>
4.25 – 4.35 PM	<b>MOVEMENT BREAK</b>
4.35 – 5.15 PM	<b>SESSION 4: PANEL SESSION</b> Topic: <i>How to build a grant track record as an ECR</i>
	<p><b>Moderator:</b> Amy McNeilage, PhD student, MARC / USyd</p> <p><b>Panel Members:</b></p> <p>Nilakshi Gunatillaka, Deep End Living Lab Program Manager, MARC          Associate Professor Susan Baidawi, Social Work, Monash University          Dr Ari Roxburgh, Research Fellow, Clinical and Social Research Team, Turning Point and Monash University</p>
5.15 – 5.30 PM	<b>AWARDS</b>
5.30 PM	<b>EVENT CONCLUDES / OPTIONAL NETWORKING EVENT</b>