

CAIRNS

Convention Centre
28–30 October 2026



CALL FOR ABSTRACTS 2026

ACHSM ANNUAL ASIA-PACIFIC HEALTH LEADERSHIP CONGRESS

28 – 30 October 2026

Cairns Convention Centre, Queensland, Australia

The Australasian College of Health Service Management invites executives, managers, consultants, clinicians, planners, policy makers, academics, researchers, and those involved in health governance with an interest in positively informing health management, leadership and policy to submit an abstract for the 2026 Annual Congress.

Our most recent Congress which was held in Darwin, NT in October 2025 was an outstanding success with well over 500 delegates.

The overall 2026 congress theme will be **Leadership, Collaboration and Innovation: Building Resilient Health Systems for the Future**. Bringing together knowledge systems to drive new ways of policy and practice, innovation and collaboration.

Submissions that focus on leadership, collaboration and innovation in the following areas will be well regarded;

- Leadership and Strategic Planning
- Workforce
- Governance, Safety and Quality
- Remote and rural health care delivery
- Digital and virtual health and AI (how we leverage technology for better health outcomes)
- Healthcare/service transformation (inc models of care, clinical service redesign)
- Climate Change and Sustainability (how we can tackle this global emergency in Health)
- Health and wellbeing (Health sector staff)

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Following are some possible streams, however you are not limited to these stream topics:

- Cyber security
- Aboriginal health
- Migrant health
- Transition from clinician to clinician/leader and manager
- Aged care, home care, disability care – integration
- Funding and Interface priorities (Primary Care, Aged Care, Disability)
- The role of academic research in health transformation
- Facility design and management

We now invite abstracts setting out potential contributions to this program outlining key areas of experience and expertise:

- **Sector or industry case studies** provide an opportunity for practitioners; leaders and managers; consultants, vendors and those involved in governance to present experience, learning and ideas from the delivery and application space.
- **Leadership case studies** are presentations about experience, ideas, application and transferrable successes focusing on the key areas of responsibility in vision setting; engaging with stakeholders and transforming health, aged care and social care organisations.
- **Workshop or masterclass** provides the opportunity for more in depth learning facilitated by experienced leaders
- **Academic & Scientific papers** provide research and development work and projects as well as evaluation and application of research experience to the field

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There are **4 types of presentation opportunities available** at this international event for 2026 that will attract attendees from all over Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Singapore, Indonesia, China and India.

Please submit one or more abstracts as:

1. **Short Paper Presentation** – 20 minutes
2. **Poster Presentation** – Electronic posters are presented at the Congress for delegates to view at all breaks in the exhibition area
3. **PechaKucha Presentation** - PechaKucha 20x20 is a simple presentation format with the presenter delivering 20 images, each for 20 seconds. PechaKucha presentations are 6.5 minutes in total
4. **Workshops or Masterclasses** – 90 minute full concurrent or pre-congress session workshop focussing on a specific health leadership implementation challenge or issue – 4 sessions available

The suggested focus areas for the 2026 Congress will be practical explorations of how to survive and thrive current and future challenges for health leaders.

NEW FOR 2026!

For 2026, we are excited to announce the introduction of **two new presentation styles** into the congress program, ***Lightning Talks*** and ***Case-in-5 / Failure-in-5***. These new, high-impact sessions will be selected from the overall submission pool, so there is no need to opt in or select a specific option during the submission process. All submissions will be considered and will be advised following the program review process.

- **Lightning Talks, Format:** 5 minutes, the presenter answers one challenging question (e.g. “What is one thing we should stop doing?”)
- **Case-in-5 / Failure-in-5, Format:** 5 minutes on a real case or failed initiative and must end with one transferable lesson.

SHORT PAPERS - Concurrent Session Oral Presentations

Each oral presentation will be a maximum 20 minutes in length followed by fifteen minutes for questions and discussion at the end of all presentations. Oral presentations should have a coherent structure, a clearly stated purpose, descriptive information, including necessary contextual detail, and report on research findings, evaluation results, lessons learned, or other evaluative assessments. The room will be equipped with a data projector, screen and laptop computer.

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DIGITAL POSTERS

- Posters need to be created in a 16:9 aspect ratio
- Recommended poster dimensions are **3840px x 2160px** (1920px x 1080 minimum). Smaller sizes will still display but the zoom function may not work as expected
- Posters should be submitted as a single .png or .jpg image
- Posters will need to be submitted via a custom online form. A link will be provided on acceptance of your poster
- Top left logo is customisable as are the screen colours but neutral tones work best
- If your poster is accepted, one author must register for the Congress (at a speaker ticket rate)
- A time slot will be allocated during the congress for you to be present to answer questions on the poster

PECHAKUCHA

PechaKucha presentations enable you to present new, innovative and successful ideas and initiatives in a focused, concise and structured way. This format of presentation means an overall 6½ minute presentation involving 20 pictures/slides which automatically advance and live narrative. (www.pechakucha.org), **time will be strictly limited to the 6 1/2 minutes.**

WORKSHOPS/MASTERCLASS (4 workshop places available)

These 90-minute sessions provide an opportunity for a more in-depth approach to one of the topics listed above. Workshops should have a coherent structure, a clearly stated purpose, descriptive information, including necessary contextual detail, and report on research findings, evaluation results, lessons learned, or other evaluative assessments such as workplace or other outcomes. The room will be equipped with a data projector, screen and laptop computer.

You are encouraged to collaborate with peers engaged in similar (or even related, but contrary) work to stimulate diverse or novel thinking. Consider inclusion of clear recommendations or calls to action for participants as part of urgent health system and healthcare transformation for the future.

Abstract submissions should indicate if the authors are willing to present a similar / contracted paper in the shorter oral presentation format. In addition to the information required for all abstracts, authors should attach a file of up to 10 x A4 pages outlining the expertise of all presenter(s) and other information to support the submission.

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ABSTRACT CONTENT

Abstracts for the Scientific Program of the Congress should address the aims of the Congress to:

- Provide a forum to enrich health services management and leadership practices and innovations;
- Showcase leading practices and the factors leading to success through case studies in health management, leadership and policy.
- Address the challenges facing policy-makers and health managers and leaders in enhancing health service delivery related to Aboriginal and indigenous health, aged care, mental health, primary care, public and private sectors, rural health and quality and safety; infrastructure
- Highlight innovation in governance, workforce and technologies that can help to transform health systems and services.

SUBMISSION PROCESS

The submission and review of papers for the ACHSM 2026 Asia Pacific Congress is managed through an online conference paper management system called 'EasyChair' (www.easychair.org). The submission web portal is found at

<https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=achsmcairns2026>

- Click on this link and it will take you to the EasyChair log in page.
- You need to be currently registered or create a new registration to be able to access and submit your abstract(s) [your EasyChair registration is separate and before your Abstract submission]
- EasyChair has all the necessary information and prompts for you to access and register in the system.
- Ensure you submit by the DEADLINE on **Monday 16 March 2026**

The EasyChair website for ACHSM 2026 is the only way in which you can submit your abstracts – email or hardcopy abstract submissions will not be accepted.

Abstracts will be peer-reviewed according to how well they meet the Congress aims and the following:

- Learning objectives and outcomes clearly articulated and relevant to the aims;
- Evidence that the practice achieved its objectives;
- Practical implications;
- Originality and innovation; and
- Results and lessons learned.

Submissions close Monday 16 March 2026

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Authors will be notified of program acceptance decisions in Early May 2026.

- Authors will be notified of program acceptance decisions in the week commencing 04 May 2026
- If your paper is accepted an online speaker information form will also need to be completed by 30 June 2026 with your bio & photo. If it is not received by this deadline, *there is not guarantee your audio-visual requirements will be available and your bio & photo will not be in the Congress app.*

General information - applies to oral, full session and poster presentations

- The presenting author's contact details, including a valid email address and mobile telephone number, are to be used when submitting the abstract
- **All abstracts must be submitted by the DEADLINE which is no later than midnight on 16th March 2026**
- Abstracts must be submitted in English and limited to **300 words**, covering:
 - Learning objectives and outcomes clearly articulated and relevant to the aims;
 - Evidence that the practice achieved its objectives;
 - Practical implications;
 - Originality and innovation; and
 - Results and lessons learned.
- The presenting author's speaker preparation form with a biography and a suitable headshot, which will be required by **30 June 2026** to be used in the Congress app. The biography must be in **complete sentences** within **100 words** and should contain information about current work role, career history and professional achievements
- Multiple abstract submissions are permitted. However, a separate abstract submission with author details and biography etc must be provided for each separate submission
- After you submit your abstract, you have until the submission closing deadline date (16 March 2026) to re-enter your submission and make changes. You will not be able to re-enter the EasyChair system after the submission closing date.
- The abstract will appear in Congress materials as submitted. Please ensure the abstract is checked carefully before submitting, as changes or additions will not be accepted after the call for abstracts closes on **16th March 2026**.

See next page for Terms and Conditions...

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Terms and Conditions:

Authors submitting an abstract agree to the following terms and conditions:

- A photo & bio will be provided by 30 June 2026
- A speaker prep form will be completed by 30 June 2026
- Confirmation that each author listed agrees with the content of the abstract and has given permission to be listed as an author presenter or author,
- Confirmation of the accuracy of the information and referencing within the abstract,
- The presenter will be required to complete a Congress registration if the abstract/digital poster is accepted for presentation. The abstract will not be published until registration and full payment has been received, additional presenters who will be listed on the program can also register at the speaker rate
- Permission granted for the Congress organisers to publish the abstract in the Congress proceedings book (paper and electronic formats),
- Permission granted for the Congress organisers to publish the author's photo & bio as provided for the presenting author and authors (as listed in the abstract) on the Congress App
- Understanding that the abstract will be published, if accepted, as submitted and that no editing to grammar or spelling will be undertaken by the Academic Committee.

Abstract enquiries only:

Program Co-Ordinator: Dr Jennifer Kosiol FCHSM CHE, Griffith University
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Congress 2026 registration and other enquiries:

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