Iranian Australian Association of Health Professionals

CPD APPROVED

IRAHP GP Conference 2026

PROGRAM & SPEAKER GUIDE

SATURDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2026

8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Leonda By The Yarra, Melbourne

PRACTICAL

Clinical updates

INTERACTIVE

Case discussion

CONNECTED

Professional networking

BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW

Morning Program

7:55 - 8:25 AM — **Registration and Tea/Coffee**

8:25 to 8:30 AM



PRESIDENT

Welcome Address

Dr Saam Tourani | IRAHP President

Dr Saam Tourani is a Melbourne-based specialist oncoplastic and reconstructive breast, endocrine and general surgeon. He has extensive post-fellowship training in Australia and the UK and is committed to personalised, evidence-based care, patient education and shared decision-making.

8:30 to 9:00 AM



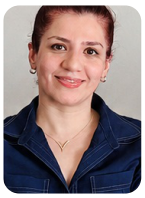
ENDOCRINOLOGY

Type 2 Diabetes Management Beyond Glycaemic Control

Dr Amin Sharifi

Dr Amin Sharifi is a Melbourne-trained physician with an interest in endocrinology. He completed Endocrinology Advanced Training at St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne, Box Hill Hospital and Barwon Health. His experience spans diabetes, thyroid and pituitary disorders, osteoporosis and calcium disorders, lipid metabolism, obesity, adrenal disorders and reproductive endocrinology.

9:00 to 9:30 AM



RHEUMATOLOGY

Positive ANA: When It Matters

Dr Nafiseh Abdollahi

Dr Nafiseh Abdollahi is a rheumatologist experienced in the management of inflammatory arthritis, connective tissue diseases, and vasculitis. Since moving to Australia in 2013, she has worked in the Rheumatology Department at Western Health and currently practices at Melbourne Rheumatology and Western Health. Education and clinical research remain an important part of her professional practice. Her clinical interests include chronic rheumatic disease, Behçet's disease, scleroderma, and osteoporosis.

9:30 to 10:00 AM



CARDIOLOGY

Valvular Cardiac Disease for GPs

Dr Mehdi Eskandari

MD, FRACP, FESC

Dr Mehdi Eskandari is a consultant cardiologist specialising in advanced cardiac imaging. Following more than a decade at King's College Hospital, London, he recently returned to Melbourne to join Austin Health. His expertise spans complex valve disease and imaging-guided transcatheter interventions alongside a broad practice in general cardiology.

Midday Program

10:00 - 10:30 AM — **Morning Tea**

10:30 to 11:00 AM



GASTROENTEROLOGY

Fatty Liver Disease: The Next Public Health Crisis

Dr Arun Gupta

MBBS, FRACP, MD

Dr Arun Gupta, MBBS, FRACP, MD is a Melbourne gastroenterologist who is adept at sorting out clinical problems, from the most simple to the most complex. He has been fortunate to work with a number of experts in the field in Melbourne, Sydney and in Oxford in the United Kingdom, with respect to gastroenterology, endoscopy and liver diseases (hepatology).

11:00 AM to 12:00 PM

MULTIDISCIPLINARY FACULTY

Population Cancer Screening


A/Prof Homi


Dr Saam


Dr Affie


Dr Arun


Dr Ali

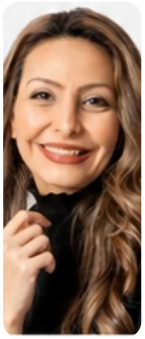

Dr Anita

A/Prof Homi Zargar, Dr Saam Tourani, Dr Affie Tourani, Dr Arun Gupta, Dr Ali Aminazad and Dr Anita Munoz

This multidisciplinary session brings together specialists in urology, respiratory medicine, gastroenterology and women's health to examine population screening for urological, lung, colorectal and ovarian cancers. The faculty will discuss current screening pathways, risk assessment, early warning signs, appropriate investigations and referral considerations, with a practical focus on how GPs can support earlier detection and informed patient conversations.

12:00 - 1:00 PM — **Lunch and Networking**

1:00 to 1:30 PM



OBSTETRICS & GYNAECOLOGY

Vulvovaginal Disease

Dr Affie Tourani

Dr Affie Tourani is a Melbourne-based specialist obstetrician and gynaecologist with over 10 years of experience as a consultant across a range of public and private healthcare settings. Her broad clinical background and dedication to patient-centred care allow her to deliver a consistently high standard of obstetric and gynaecological care.

Afternoon Program

1:30 to 2:00 PM



MEDICINAL CANNABIS

Use of Medical Cannabis in Insomnia, Anxiety and Chronic Pain

Associate Professor Vicki Kotsirilos

Associate Professor Vicki Kotsirilos is a highly respected and compassionate Specialist General Practitioner well known for her holistic approach to well-being and pioneering Integrative Medicine in Australia. Dr Vicki Kotsirilos was at the vanguard of changes surrounding the prescription of medicinal cannabis. In 2018, she became Australia's first authorised GP prescriber and welcomed the broadening of treatment options for the right type of patient when other clinical options have been exhausted.

2:00 to 2:30 PM



DERMATOLOGY

Biologics in Psoriasis: Who Should Be Referred Early?

Dr Ritva Vyas

Dr Ritva Vyas is a specialist dermatologist with advanced training in Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States. Her clinical expertise includes psoriasis and biologic therapies, contact dermatitis, melanoma and cutaneous oncology. She is also actively involved in skin cancer research and has contributed to several international presentations and peer-reviewed publications.

2:30 - 3:00 PM — **Afternoon Tea**

3:00 to 4:00 PM

INTERACTIVE SESSION

Panel Discussion

Ask our specialist panel about any clinical topic

We will be holding a multidisciplinary panel discussion with a range of specialist experts. This is your opportunity to ask questions on any clinical topic - whether related to the conference program or not.

4:00 PM — **Closing Remarks**

4:00 to 4:30 PM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

IRAHP AGM

All IRAHP Financial members are invited to stay and contribute.

Program at a Glance

7:55	Registration and tea/coffee
8:25	Welcome - Dr Saam Tourani
8:30	Type 2 diabetes - Dr Amin Sharifi
9:00	Positive ANA - Dr Nafiseh Abdollahi
9:30	Valvular disease - Dr Mehdi Eskandari
10:00	Morning tea
10:30	Fatty liver disease - Dr Arun Gupta
11:00	Population cancer screening
12:00	Lunch and networking
1:00	Vulvovaginal disease - Dr Affie Tourani
1:30	Medicinal cannabis - A/Prof Vicki Kotsirilos
2:00	Biologics in psoriasis - Dr Ritva Vyas
2:30	Afternoon tea
3:00	Interactive panel discussion
4:00	Closing remarks
4:00	IRAHP AGM - financial members

A practical day for GPs

CPD APPROVED

Focused clinical updates, practical prescribing guidance and specialist perspectives across diabetes, medicinal cannabis, cardiology, liver disease, cancer screening, women's health, rheumatology and dermatology.

BRING YOUR QUESTIONS AND CASES

We will be holding a multidisciplinary panel discussion with a range of specialist experts. This is your opportunity to ask questions on any clinical topic - whether related to the conference program or not.

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