

RISE OF THE MACHINES

30 - 31 October 2026
InterContinental Sydney Double Bay

PROGRAM BOOK



WELCOME

On behalf of the organising committee, it is my great pleasure to invite you to the 2026 AGES Focus Meeting in Sydney: Rise of the Machines.

Over two days, we will explore one of the most rapidly evolving and disruptive periods in modern medicine: the intersection of robotics, artificial intelligence, and surgical practice.

What was once science fiction is now firmly embedded in our clinics, operating theatres, imaging platforms, documentation systems, training programs, and patient interactions. AI is already influencing the way we consult, diagnose, communicate, operate, document, teach, and learn. Robotics continues to reshape complex surgery across multiple specialties, while raising important

questions around access, equity, training, safety, sustainability, and the future role of the surgeon.

This meeting has been designed not simply as a showcase of technology, but as a comprehensive exploration of what these advances mean for us as gynaecologists, surgeons, educators, and leaders.

Our exceptional faculty brings together experts from gynaecology, robotics, AI development, imaging, fertility, ethics, industry, education, and beyond. Across the program, we will move from the global landscape of AI and robotics, to practical applications already changing daily clinical practice, through to the ethical, medico-legal and societal challenges that accompany rapid technological change - and a exploration of robotic surgery across the spectrum of procedures we commonly perform.

Importantly, this meeting is designed for the practising FRANZCOG specialist and trainee alike, whether you are already deeply engaged with robotics and AI, cautiously curious, or entirely sceptical. The goal is not blind enthusiasm, nor fear-driven resistance, but thoughtful, evidence-based discussion about how we navigate this new era responsibly, safely and effectively.

The day prior to the meeting, we are excited to offer a special pre-conference 'AI for Doctors' workshop - a practical, clinician-led immersion into the rapidly evolving world of AI in healthcare, focused on real-world tools, workflow integration, safety, ethics, and immediate applications for everyday medical practice. Bring your laptop and learn how to harness these tools to transform your practice!

Alongside the scientific program and workshop, we hope you will enjoy

reconnecting with colleagues from across Australia and New Zealand, engaging with our industry partners, and experiencing Sydney in spring.

Thank you to our outstanding speakers, convenors, sponsors, exhibitors and the AGES team whose vision and work have brought this meeting together.

With the exhibition almost nearly sold out, demand for this meeting is expected to be extremely high, so we encourage you to register early to avoid disappointment.

We look forward to welcoming you to Sydney for what promises to be a dynamic, provocative, sometimes terrifying and always memorable meeting.

Dr Jenni Pontre

On behalf of the Organising Committee

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FOCUS MEETING *LOC*



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Dr Dean Conrad
Co-Scientific Chair



Keryn Harlow
AGES Board Member &
Co-Scientific Chair



Dr Yogesh Nikam
Committee Member



Tanushree Rao
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Trainee Representative



AI MASTERCLASS

THURSDAY 30 OCTOBER

InterContinental Sydney
Double Bay

Putting AI to Work -

A Hands-On Masterclass for Clinicians

This hands-on masterclass will show clinicians how to use AI confidently and effectively in everyday practice. Through live demonstrations and practical examples, Julian will explore tools to streamline administration, draft correspondence and improve efficiency, while focusing on safe and responsible AI use in clinical settings. Participants will have the opportunity to try these tools, ask questions and leave with practical skills they can apply immediately.

What You Will Need

- **Laptop and mobile data** – Please bring your laptop and connect to the venue Wi-Fi.
- **ChatGPT or Claude** – Access is recommended (a paid subscription is preferred but not essential). Please note that Copilot is not suitable for this workshop.



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PROGRAM

- 12:00pm: Registration
- 12:30pm: Welcome: What AI Can Do Today
- 1:00pm: Set Up: Data Security, Governance, Connections and Personalisation
- 2:00pm: The Basics – Part One
- 2:30pm: Afternoon Tea
- 3:00pm: The Basics - Part Two
- 3:30pm: Build Your Own Agent or Skill
- 4:30pm: Q&A
- 5:00pm: iScribe Session
- 5:45pm: Workshop Concludes

CONFERENCE

Dinner

ESTABLISHMENT BALLROOM

DATE

Friday, 30 October 2026

TIME

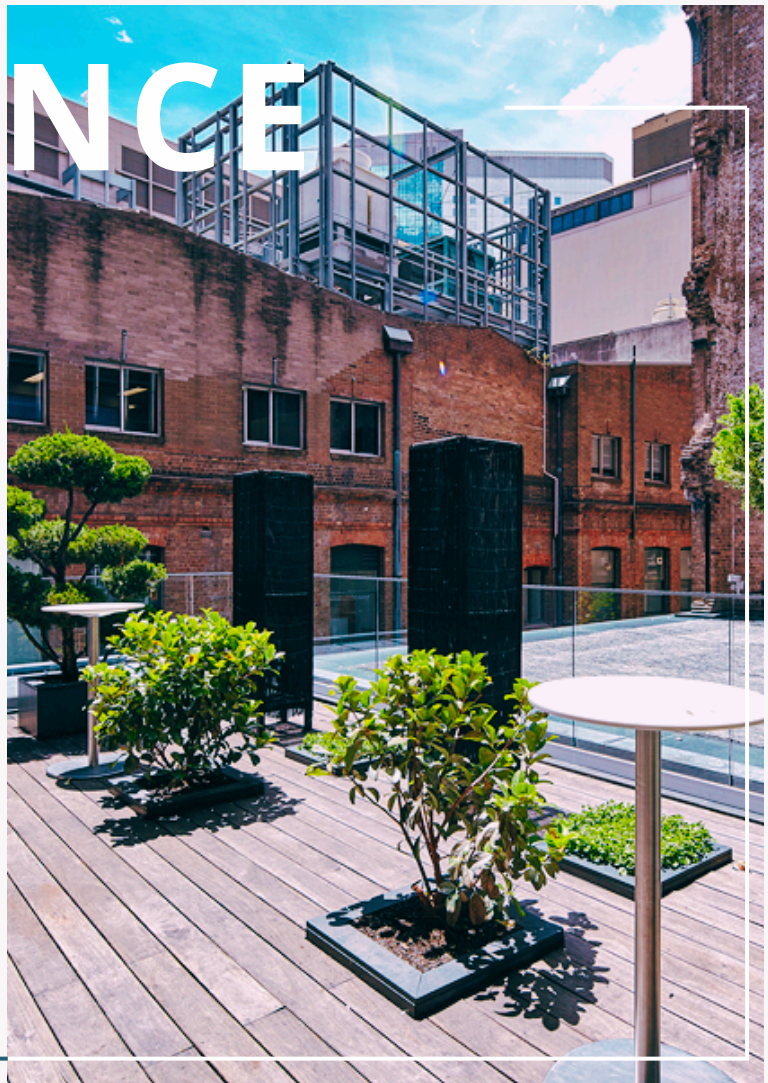
7 - 11pm

DRESS CODE

Cocktail

BUSES

Buses have been arranged to transfer guests to Establishment Ballroom. If you would like to take the coach, please be ready at InterContinental Sydney Double Bay valet area for a 6.30pm departure.



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CONFERENCE PROGRAM

AGES FOCUS MEETING

Conference Program | Friday 30 - Saturday 31 October 2026

FRIDAY 30 OCTOBER 2026		
0700 - 0800	Conference Registration	Grand Ballroom 3 & Foyer
0800 - 0920	Opening Plenary: Rise of the Machines: The Future of Robotics CHAIRS: Michael Wynn-Williams & Jenni Pontré	Grand Ballroom 1 & 2
0800 - 0810	Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country – Michael Wynn-Williams	
0810 - 0845	Robotics and AI: Clickbait – The History and the Next 1000 Years – Carlo Bellini	
0845 - 0910	We are all Custodians of AI: Why the Rise of the Machines is a Human Responsibility – Luli Adeyemo	
0910 - 0920	Panel Discussion	
0920 - 1030	Session One: The Global Landscape CHAIR: Emma Readman & Jessica Robertson	Grand Ballroom 1 & 2
0920 - 0935	Women's Health Road's Journey with Heidi – Jonathon O'Sullivan-Scott & Talat Uppal	
0935 - 0950	The Global Race in Surgical Robotics – Naman Dahiya	
0950 - 1005	Defining Robotic Surgery in Australia: How Best to Integrate RACS- Recommendations in Robotic-Assisted Surgery with New RANZCOG Guidelines into Clinical Practice – Alan Lam	
1005 - 1020	What Industry Sees Coming: The Next Phase of Robotic Surgery – Mark Slack	
1020 - 1030	Panel Discussion	
1030 - 1100	Morning Tea & Trade Exhibition	Grand Ballroom 3 & Foyer
1100 - 1225	Session Two: AI in the Clinic CHAIRS: Keryn Harlow & Jenni Pontré	Grand Ballroom 3 & Foyer
1100 - 1145	The AI Scribe Revolution: What's Available Right Now - Michael Wynn Williams, Lauren Hofmann, Bassem Gerges & Kaushi Arulpragasam	
1145 - 1200	Dr Google vs Dr ChatGPT: The New Consultation Room – Keryn Harlow	
1200 - 1215	Your AI-Powered Clinic: From Front Desk to Follow-Up – Carlo Bellini	
1215 - 1225	Panel Discussion	
1225 - 1325	Lunch and Trade Exhibition	Grand Ballroom 3 & Foyer
1325 - 1505	Session Three: Robotics in the OR: Where It Changes the Game CHAIRS: Amani Harris & Dean Conrad	Grand Ballroom 1 & 2
1325 - 1340	From Laparoscopy to Robotics to AI: The Evolution of the Gynaecological Surgeon – Rooma Sinha (Virtual)	
1340 - 1355	Robotics in Hysterectomy: Does It Change the Game? – Jessica Robertson	
1355 - 1410	Robotics in Endometriosis: Precision in Complex Dissection – Yogesh Nikam	

RISE OF THE MACHINES



Australasian Gynaecological Endoscopy & Surgery
AGES FOCUS MEETING 2026

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InterContinental Sydney Double Bay

1410 - 1425	Robotics in Pelvic Floor Surgery: Depth, Suturing, and Durability – Vivian Yang	
1425 - 1440	Robotics in Neuropelveology: Navigating the Pelvic Nerves – Danny Chou	
1440 - 1455	Redefining the Limits of Robotic Myomectomy: Evidence, Technique and Challenging Cases – Tanushree Rao	
1455 - 1510	Robotics and Gynae Oncology – Michael Burling	
1510 - 1520	Panel Discussion	
1520 - 1550	Afternoon Tea and Trade Exhibition	<i>Grand Ballroom 3 & Foyer</i>
1550 - 1705	Session Four: AI in the OR CHAIRS: Kirsten Connan & Yogesh Nikam	<i>Grand Ballroom 1 & 2</i>
1550 - 1605	AI in Surgery: From Experimentation to Integration – Quinlan Buchlak	
1605 - 1620	AI-Assisted Surgery — What Exists Now? – Gaby Moawad (Virtual)	
1620 - 1635	Black Box in Surgery – Cara King	
1635 - 1645	Telesurgery and Telepresence: The Next Frontier in Robotic Surgery – Ruban Thanigasalam	
1645 - 1655	Empathetic. Available. Cheap: AI in Women's Health – Jenni Pontré	
1655 - 1705	Panel Discussion	
1705	Close of Day One	
1900 - 2300	Conference Dinner	<i>Establishment Ballroom</i>

SATURDAY 31 OCTOBER 2026

0815 - 0845	Conference Registration	<i>Grand Ballroom 3 & Foyer</i>
0845 - 1000	Session Five: Ethics and Negative Impacts CHAIRS: Samantha Mooney & Erin Nesbitt-Hawes	<i>Grand Ballroom 1 & 2</i>
0845 - 0900	Environmental Concerns in Robotic and AI-Driven Healthcare – Vinayak Smith	
0900 - 0915	Medico-Legal Implications of AI and Robotics: Consent, Responsibility and Regulation – Georgie Haysom	
0915 - 0930	How Can We Ensure Evidence Democracy, Not Data Autocracy? – Jason Abbott	
0930 - 0945	The Dark Side of AI – Praveen De Silva	
0945 - 1000	Panel Discussion	
1000 - 1030	Morning Tea & Trade Exhibition	<i>Grand Ballroom 3 & Foyer</i>

1030 – 1200	Session Six: Diagnostics, Imaging and Fertility CHAIRS: Rachel Green & Kate Martin	<i>Grand Ballroom 1 & 2</i>
1030 – 1045	AI in Fertility – Anusch Yazdani	
1045 – 1100	AI Under the Microscope – Annabelle Farnsworth	
1100 – 1115	Who Needs Eyes Anyway? AI and Endometriosis Imaging – Mathew Leonardi (Virtual)	
1115 – 1130	The Doorknob Moment, Moved to the Start – Jamie Chew (iscribe/iconsult by Akuru)	
1130 - 1145	We Love Your Oura: Wearables in Health – Joanna Morris (Matilda Health)	
1145 – 1200	Panel Discussion	
1200 – 1300	Lunch & Trade Exhibition	<i>Ballroom 3 & Foyer</i>
1300 - 1425	Session Seven: Training and Credentialing the Robotic Workforce CHAIRS: Nyasha Gwata & Tanushree Rao	<i>Ballroom 1 & 2</i>
1300 – 1315	Training the Robotic Gynaecologist: From First Case to Telementoring – Dean Conrad	
1315 – 1330	Modern Surgical Education: Simulation, Coaching, and AI – Amani Harris	
1330 – 1345	Who Decides You're Safe? Credentialing in the Robotic Era – Mikhail Sarofim	
1345 – 1400	Who Gets to Sit at the Console? Gender, Access and Equity in Robotic Surgery – Supuni Kapurubandara	
1400 – 1415	Building a Public Robotic Surgery Program: Training, Access, and Sustainability – Sarah Corbett	
1415 – 1425	Panel Discussion	
1425 – 1455	Afternoon Tea & Trade Exhibition	<i>Grand Ballroom 3 & Foyer</i>
1455 – 1630	Session Eight: The Robot Revolution: What's Available Right Now CHAIRS: Michael Wynn-Williams & Dean Conrad	<i>Grand Ballroom 1 & 2</i>
1455 – 1510	Da Vinci Xi and 5: The Evolution of Multiport Robotics - Arnie Advincula (Virtual)	
1510 – 1525	Rethinking Access: Australia's Early Experience with Single-Port Robotic Surgery in Gynaecology – Tarana Lucky	
1525 – 1540	Versius: A Modular Approach to Robotic Assisted Surgery – Dan Krishnan	
1540 – 1555	TouMai: China's Entry into the Australian Robotic Surgery Landscape – Henry Cheung	
1555 – 1610	Hugo RAS: Medtronic's Expansion into Robotic Surgery – Sara Mastrovito (Virtual)	
1610 – 1620	Panel Discussion	
1620 - 1645	Awards and Closing Session	
1645	Conference Concludes	



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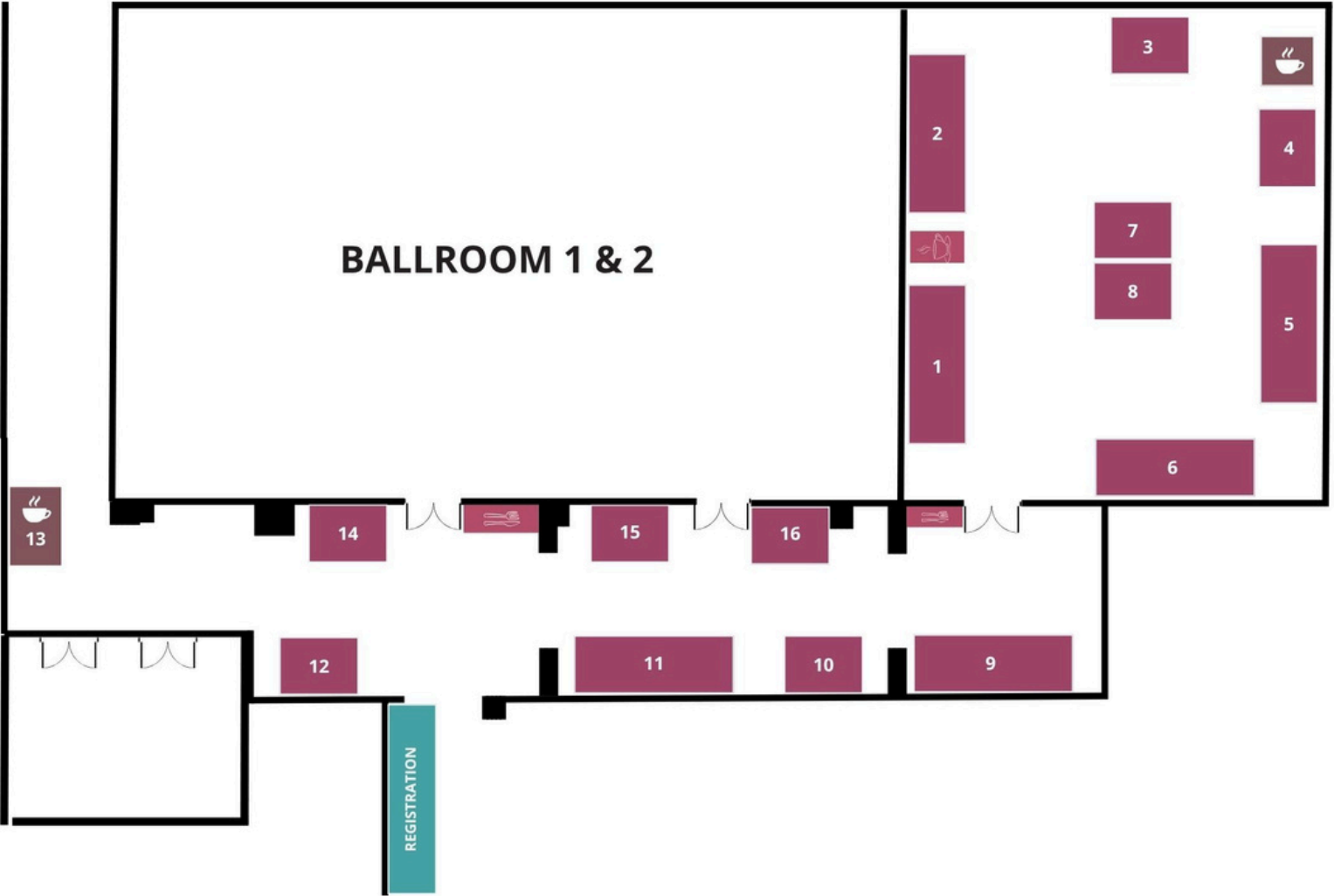
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