



Short Stay Hospitals Forum

by informa ●●●

3 - 4 AUGUST 2026

CROWN PROMENADE MELBOURNE



INDUSTRY LEADING SPEAKERS:



Professor David Watters, *Director of Surgery, Safer Care Victoria (SCV), Professor of Surgery, University Hospital Geelong, Barwon Health and Deakin University*



Professor Benjamin Thomson, *Chief Surgical Advisor, Victorian Department of Health*



Dr Daevyd Rodda, *Orthopaedic Surgeon, Sunshine Coast Orthopaedics Group*



Dr Ken Sleeman, *Consultant Anaesthetist, Chairman, Day Care Anaesthetist SIG*



Andrea Tuckey, *Head of Provider Strategy and Delivery, Medibank*



Dr Omar Khorshid, *Head of Department- Orthopaedic Surgery, Fremantle Hospital*



Ravinder Carothers, *General Manager-Health Funding, Strategy and Performance, St John of God Health Care*



Sarah Hobson, *Project Director- Short Stay Arthroplasty Project, Fremantle Hospital*



Reza Barzegari, *CEO, Waikiki Hospital*



Tara Veldman, *Managing Director, Billard Leece Partnership*



Chad Wilhelm, *Managing Director, Wilhelm Integrated Solutions*



Srimathi Iyengar, *Institutional Healthcare Portfolio Manager, Barwon Investment Partners*



Mark Sweeney, *Co-Founder and Co-Chief Executive Officer, Avive Healthcare*



Dr Malak Sukkar, *Managing Director, MediHealth Partners*



Dr Kerry Rubin, *Clinical Director- Mental Health Service, Peninsula Health*



Kaleigh Leggett, *Senior Director Surgery Connect, Queensland Health*

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EXHIBITORS



8:30 Registration & Morning Coffee

9:05 **OPENING REMARKS** | Opening remarks from the Chair

9:10 **OPENING KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

Global Perspectives on Short Stay Hospitals

9:40 **Victorian Surgical Reform: Transforming Planned Care and Day Case Surgery**

- Explore key improvements, new KPIs for common procedures, and advancements in robotic and lung surgeries
- Understand challenges, funding misconceptions, and emerging trends like day case hip and knee replacements

Professor Benjamin Thomson, *Chief Surgical Advisor, Victorian Department of Health*

10:10 **Strategic Planning for Short Stay Hospitals: Lessons from St Vincent's**

Andrew Roma, *Head of Strategy and Planning, Private Hospitals, St Vincents Health Australia*

10:40 Networking and refreshment break

11:10 **INNOVATION SPOTLIGHT**

Chad Wilhelm, *Managing Director, Wilhelm Integrated Solutions*

11:40 **Partnering for Innovation: Medibank's Vision for Short Stay Healthcare**

Discover how strategic partnerships, specialized care models, and initiatives like the No Gap program are transforming patient outcomes and system efficiencies.

Andrea Tuckey, *Head of Provider Strategy and Delivery, Medibank*

12:10 **PANEL DISCUSSION**

Short Stay Mental Health Facilities: Better Outcomes or Cost-Driven Care?

- Are short stay mental health facilities improving patient outcomes, or are they primarily driven by cost-saving incentives from health insurers?
- What evidence exists to support the effectiveness of short stay models in mental health care?
- How can financial models and clinical needs be balanced to ensure patient-centered care?
- What role do psychiatrists and health insurers play in shaping the future of short stay mental health facilities?

Mark Sweeney, *Co-Founder and Co-Chief Executive Officer, Avive Healthcare*

Dr Kerryn Rubin, *Clinical Director- Mental Health Service, Peninsula Health*

13:00 Lunch and networking break

14:00 **Innovative Models of Care: Mater's Approach to Short Stay Hospitals**

14:30 **Embedding a Short Stay Arthroplasty Model at Fremantle Hospital**

Fremantle Hospital has implemented a short stay arthroplasty model of care for hip and knee replacement to reduce length of stay and improve patient flow, improve patient outcomes and experience while maintaining safety. In this session, Dr Omar Khorshid (Head of Orthopaedics) and Sarah Hobson (Program Director, Clinical Services Redesign, SMHS) will share details on the core elements of the model of care, including anaesthesia and analgesia protocols, swelling management and early mobilisation, as well as how the model and pathway was designed and implemented across multi-disciplinary areas involved in the patient journey. The session will also outline the performance indicators used and lessons learned that are transferable to other specialties and services.

Dr Omar Khorshid, *Head of Department- Orthopaedic Surgery, Fremantle Hospital*

Sarah Hobson, *Project Director- Short Stay Arthroplasty Project, Fremantle Hospital*

15:00 Networking and refreshment break

15:30 **Nexus Hospital: The Intersection of Partnership and Financial Sustainability**

Fiona Langley, *Southern Operations Director VIC/SA/TAS, Nexus Hospitals*

16:00 **EXECUTIVE PANEL**

Overcoming Barriers Together

- What are the key challenges in transitioning to short stay hospital models, including cost pressures, outdated structures, and misaligned incentives?
- How can health funds, large hospitals, and smaller facilities collaborate to address these systemic barriers?
- How can stakeholders- hospitals, health funds, and doctors - work together to create sustainable incentives for adopting short stay care?

Reza Barzegari, *CEO, Waikiki Hospital*

Ravinder Carothers, *General Manager-Health Funding, Strategy and Performance, St John of God Health Care*

Kaleigh Leggett, *Senior Director Surgery Connect, Queensland Health*

Moderator: Dr Malak Sukkar, *Managing Director, MediHealth Partners*

16:45 Closing remarks from Chair

16:50 Networking Function



VENUE DETAILS

Crown Promenade Melbourne
8 Whiteman St, Southbank VIC 3006
Phone: (03) 9292 8888

Short Stay Hospitals Forum

Wednesday 4 August 2026

DAY 2

8:30 Registration & Morning Coffee

9:05 **OPENING REMARKS** | Opening remarks from the Chair

9:10 **OPENING ADDRESS**

Delivering Optimal Perioperative Pathways and Outcomes through Patient Engagement, Enhanced Recovery after Surgery, Early Discharge and System Reform

Professor David Watters, *Director of Surgery, Safer Care Victoria (SCV), Professor of Surgery, University Hospital Geelong, Barwon Health and Deakin University*

9:40 **The Challenges and Opportunities in Orthopaedic Short Stay Hospitals**

Dr Daevyd Rodda, *Orthopaedic Surgeon, Sunshine Coast Orthopaedics Group*

10:10 **INNOVATION SPOTLIGHT**

10:40 Networking and refreshment break

11:10 **Emerging Technologies in Short Stay Hospitals: Robotic Surgery**

Explore the transformative potential of robotic surgery in enhancing precision, efficiency, and patient outcomes in short stay hospital settings.

11:40 **Innovations in Pain Management for Short Stay Procedures**

Dr Ken Sleeman, *Consultant Anaesthetist, Chairman, Day Care Anaesthetist SIG*

12:10 **PANEL**

Designing for Efficiency: Sustainability and Operational Excellence in Day Hospitals

- Discuss strategies for optimizing operational workflows in short stay hospitals
- Explore sustainable design principles that enhance patient care and reduce environmental impact
- Learn from case studies showcasing successful implementation of efficient day hospital models

Tara Veldman, *Managing Director, Billard Leece Partnership*

13:00 Lunch and networking break

14:00 **Health Insurance and Short Stay Hospitals: Aligning Incentives for Better Care**

14:30 **CLOSING PANEL**

Investing in Innovation: Shaping the Future of Short Stay Hospitals

- Examine how private equity and investment firms are shaping the growth of short stay hospitals
- Explore future trends and real-world examples

Srimathi Iyengar, *Institutional Healthcare Portfolio Manager, Barwon Investment Partners*

Dr Daevyd Rodda, *Orthopaedic Surgeon, Sunshine Coast Orthopaedics Group*

15:15 Closing remarks from Chair

15:20 End of Conference

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EXHIBITORS



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