

AMT Virtual Conference 2025

Partners in Healthcare



At this year's AMT Conference, we will explore the role of massage therapists as integral partners in healthcare, highlighting how collaboration across disciplines enhances patient outcomes and supports whole-person care while also strengthening the visibility, credibility, and professional development of the massage industry.

Program

Sunday 19 October

10.00am – 10.15am	AMT Chair welcome – Keryn Rose
10.15am – 11.00am	Research as Common Ground: Strengthening the Role of Massage Therapy in Interprofessional Care – Amanda Baskwill
11.00am – 11.30am	From Common Ground to Collaborative Care: Pathways to Professional Partnership – Lisa Fiddes
11.30am – 11.45am	Exercise snack
11.45am – 12.15pm	How to unfollow social media risks – Christie Boucher (Risk Services Manager, Guild Insurance)
12.15pm – 12.30pm	Mindfulness meditation – Tim Clark
12.30pm – 1.00pm	Lunch break
1.00pm – 1.30pm	A Journey into Interprofessional Care – Trent Renshaw
1.30pm – 2.30pm	Collaborative healthcare panel session – various
2.30pm – 2.45pm	Comfort break
2.45pm – 3.30pm	Special General Meeting of AMT members

The program schedule and speakers are subject to change without notice. Any updates will be communicated to registered attendees via email and via the [AMT website](#). We appreciate your understanding as we work to deliver the best possible virtual experience.

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Pricing

Virtual conference

Member	\$120.00
Non-member	\$170.00
AMT student member	\$70.00

Virtual preconference workshop

Member	\$120.00
Non-member	\$170.00
AMT student member	\$70.00

Preconference and virtual conference bundle

Member	\$200.00
Non-member	\$300.00
AMT student member	\$140.00

Cancellation

AMT cannot provide refunds on this event. If you are unable to attend live, AMT will send you the recording of the conference proceedings when it becomes available.

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About the presenters



AMANDA BASKWILL

Amanda Baskwill, PhD, is an educator, scholar, and leader in health and wellness education. She serves as the Senior Vice President Academic at Loyalist College in Ontario, Canada, where she leads institutional strategy for high-quality, applied learning across diverse fields, including integrative health and wellness. With a professional background in massage therapy and a research portfolio focused on professional identity and evidence-informed practice, Amanda is committed to advancing the role of therapeutic massage and bodywork providers in broader health systems. She is also Executive Editor of the *International Journal of Therapeutic Massage & Bodywork*, where she works to advance research that informs and enhances massage therapy practice, education, and advocacy.



Keynote address

RESEARCH AS COMMON GROUND: STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF MASSAGE THERAPY IN INTERPROFESSIONAL CARE

As health systems evolve toward more integrated and collaborative models, research serves as a shared platform for dialogue, credibility, and coordinated care. This keynote invites participants to consider how research can facilitate interprofessional understanding, reduce professional silos, and promote equitable representation within therapeutic care. Emphasis will be placed on how massage therapists and massage therapy advocates can leverage evidence to advance inclusion in interprofessional care teams. By the end of this session, participants will identify how research can shape not only individual practice but the broader narrative of integrative health.



Learning Outcomes

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- explain how research creates shared language and credibility across health professions
- explore how research supports the integration of massage therapy into collaborative care settings
- Identify ways massage therapists can engage with or contribute to interprofessional research.

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ABOUT THE PRESENTERS (CONT...)



LISA FIDDES

Lisa has been an educator for over 15 years. She enjoys studying and, after completing two Bachelors of Health Science (Natural Medicine and Myotherapy), went on to study a Master of Preventive Medicine, a Master of Clinical Research, and a Graduate Certificate in Chronic Condition Management. Never one to rest on her laurels, Lisa has now embarked on a PhD investigating motivational interviewing and behaviour change for chronic disease management in rural and regional Victoria, sometimes delving into microbiology or educational neuroscience just for fun.



Session

FROM COMMON GROUND TO COLLABORATIVE CARE: PATHWAYS TO PROFESSIONAL PARTNERSHIP

Building on the theme explored in Amanda's keynote address, Lisa will demonstrate how established practitioners can build their research literacy chops and strengthen professional partnerships through practical pathways like the national training package HLTSS00081 Pain Management Skill Set. With particular focus on the unit 'Research and apply evidence to practice,' Lisa will explore how this professional development opportunity provides the foundation for speaking the same language as other practitioners in the healthcare team.

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ABOUT THE PRESENTERS (CONT...)



CHRISTIE BOUCHER

With over 25 years of experience in education, Christie commenced her career as a secondary school health and physical education teacher. Over the past 20 years, her professional focus has centred on creating and implementing risk management education resources and programs tailored for diverse professional audiences. Christie possesses a keen interest in the role that education plays in risk management by contributing to heightened awareness and behavioural change.



Session

HOW TO UNFOLLOW SOCIAL MEDIA RISKS

Whether we love it or loathe it, social media use is increasing all the time in both our personal and professional lives. While social media has many benefits, it can also lead to many problems. This session will explore the risks of using social media and how these risks can be minimised as well as the impact of social media on a person's professional reputation.

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ABOUT THE PRESENTERS (CONT...)



TIM CLARK

Tim is a remedial massage therapist and counsellor in Melbourne's inner south-east. Years ago, he presented his research on the therapeutic relationship in massage therapy at the AMT conference and was a regular contributor to the AMT blog. He now enjoys writing songs in his spare time and will release his first album soon.



Session

MINDFULNESS MEDITATION

Tim is reprising his enormously popular slot at the 2021 virtual AMT conference, sending us into the lunch break calm and centred and ready to digest ...

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ABOUT THE PRESENTERS (CONT...)



TRENT RENSHAW

Trent's remedial massage career began at Calvary Hospital Kogarah, working with a multidisciplinary team supporting people with motor neurone disease (MND). He learned firsthand how coordinated, patient-centred care transforms outcomes in progressive neurological conditions.

He then moved to Balmain Sports Medicine, collaborating with physiotherapists, sports physicians, and orthopaedic surgeons on sports injuries and surgical rehabilitation for elite athletes – an environment where seamless communication and shared clinical reasoning is vital to return-to-play success.

Now in Coffs Harbour, his practice focuses on oncology, lymphoedema, and men's health, responding to the region's alarming rate of late-stage prostate cancer diagnoses (175% above the national average). This work has reinforced his belief that integrated expertise across disciplines delivers the best possible care.



Session

A JOURNEY INTO INTERPROFESSIONAL CARE

In this session, Trent shares insights from a career spanning complex neurological care, elite sport, and oncology, highlighting how interprofessional collaboration enhances outcomes and creates new opportunities for massage therapists within healthcare teams.

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About the panellists



ADNAN ASGAR ALI

Adnan Asger Ali is a Director of Accelerate Physiotherapy and PhD candidate at The University of Sydney, where he is researching implementation strategies for musculoskeletal care pathways in rural Australia as part of the PACE-RURAL project.

Graduating from The University of Canberra, Adnan completed a Masters in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy at La Trobe University and a Masters in Pain Management at The University of Sydney. He is one of few physiotherapists in Australia holding dual APA titles as both Musculoskeletal and Pain Physiotherapist.

A passionate advocate for physiotherapy, Adnan serves as Chair of the Australian Physiotherapy Association's National Musculoskeletal Committee and sits on the Capital Health Network's Clinical Council. His commitment to clinical excellence was recognised when he received Physiotherapist of the Year at the 2023 Allied Health Awards.

Adnan has extensive sports physiotherapy experience, currently working with Tennis Australia treating professional players on international tours and at The Australian Open. Through his research and clinical practice, he is dedicated to improving access to evidence-based musculoskeletal care for all Australians.

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ABOUT THE PANELLISTS (CONT...)



HAYLEY ALLISON

Hayley is the founder of Mobile Therapy Tasmania and has been delivering in-home Aged Care Massage to the Tasmanian community since 2017. Her passion for massage therapy began in her early teens. Through receiving varied modalities of massage therapy since she was young, she discovered her love of helping other people with musculoskeletal pain through her own therapeutic touch.

Hayley completed her Diploma of Remedial Massage at Island Health College after moving to Hobart in 2016. While her background is in Remedial Massage Therapy, she has gone on to complete studies with Pregnancy Massage Australia, Tom Myers' Anatomy Trains in Structure and Function, and most recently CranioSacral Therapy with the Upledger Institute.

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ABOUT THE PANELLISTS (CONT...)



NATALIE SHARP

Nat graduated from Macquarie University in 2010 with a Masters in Chiropractic. Since then, she has completed an international sports chiropractic qualification and courses in instrument assisted soft tissue therapy, kinesiology taping, functional moment screen and selective functional movement assessment.

Nat is fortunate enough to draw from her experience as an international level beach and indoor volleyball athlete for her role as team chiropractor for the Australian men's and women's volleyball team and many roles as medical director for national and international beach volleyball events. Other sports Nat has worked with include water polo, crossfit, rugby union, skipping and stand-up paddle boarding. In recent years, Nat has also started to lecture in international sports chiropractic courses and delivered sports chiropractic masterclasses.

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