

# educator news Sept 2024

## AMT Annual Conference

The 2024 AMT Annual Conference is a hybrid event, with formal presentations and practical workshops offered in both face-to-face and virtual formats.

AMT will be broadcasting the formal conference plenary sessions live to registrants on the morning of **Saturday October 26 between 9.00am and 12.30pm AEDT**. These formal presentations feature current research by practising massage therapists. In other words, it is clinically relevant to practice. The plenary schedule is below.

9.00AM	Welcome - AMT Chairperson Keryn Rose
9.30AM	Behind the façade: what massage therapists believe about low back pain and integrating movement into practice – presented by Bronwyn Lennox Thompson and Rachel Ah Kit
10.30AM	Morning tea, exhibit
11.00AM	More than hands on: broad practice insights from research into pregnancy massage – presented by Sarah Fogarty
11.45AM	Self care: do you have a plan? – presented by Christine Taylor
12.30PM	Lunch, exhibit

## Student membership conference promotion

**We are offering special admission to the conference plenary sessions for any new student members joining AMT between now and Wednesday October 23.** Students who join up during this period will be sent a link to access the live broadcast of the conference on the morning of Saturday 26. (The link will be provided a few days before the event.)

**We are also offering access to the recording of the plenary session to any student member who upgrades to full practitioner status.** This offer is open until the end of 2024.

## Discover how AMT's new research resource can support delivery of CHCPOL003 - Research and apply evidence to practice

Have you checked out AMT's [graded massage therapy research tool](#) yet? It is publicly accessible to all RTOs and students.

We encourage you to watch this [6-minute tour](#) which walks you through the essential features of the resource.



The resource uses AI Critical Appraisal Checklists to assess studies for trustworthiness, results, and relevance. The critical appraisal checklists facilitate easy and accurate critical appraisal across different study types. The systematic review checklist consists of 10 questions which are designed to assess the validity, results, and applicability of a study. These will provide a useful entry point for students learning how to appraise evidence. The traffic light system used to grade studies simplifies the process of evaluating the quality of evidence.

The development of this resource included an [overview of the current systematic review evidence](#) related to massage therapy.

The full suite of supporting materials also includes a [user guide](#) that outlines the search string used to compile the resource.

AMT warmly encourage all RTO educators to browse these [materials on the AMT website](#). We're confident that they will add enormous contextualised value to the delivery and assessment of CHCPOL003.

### **Closing the Loopholes IR changes**

This year, the Australian government introduced a range of workplace reforms through the Closing the Loopholes Act. These changes will have broad impacts on the manner in which massage therapists are engaged in workplaces. A number of key changes came into effect on August 26. We have summarised these in an [AMT blog post](#) and suggest that you refer students to the available resources on the Fair Work Ombudsman website (linked in the blog post).

### **HLTSS00082 – Applied Massage for Pain Management Skill Set**

As you may be aware, the last review of HLT qualifications saw the development of a Nationally Recognised Skill Set, [HLTSS00082 – Applied Massage for Pain Management](#). It incorporates three core units of competence from the HLT52021 Diploma of Remedial Massage:

- HLTMSG017 - Apply remedial massage clinical practice
- HLTMSG016 - Apply principles of pain neuroscience
- CHCPOL003 - Research and apply evidence to practice

AMT is in dialogue with the private health funds to see if the new skillset can be recognised within their provider recognition criteria. It may provide an alternative pathway to provider recognition for therapists in the industry who hold older qualifications, including pre-HLT, or those re-entering the industry after a break in practice.

We are pleased to report that we have made some progress on this project and nib has now agreed to recognise the Skill Set as a pathway for provider recognition. AMT is in dialogue with other funds and hopes to report further positive news soon.

### **Request an AMT presentation**

Would you like AMT to talk to your student cohort, either live or virtually? AMT can present on a variety of industry topics by request. Please contact David Ward [via email](#) if you would like AMT to develop a presentation on a specific topic or present on the benefits of Association membership.