



**MOANAROA
MANA OLA**
Interdisciplinary Pacific Health
Research Conference

DAY ONE PROGRAMME

1 SEP 2026

TIME	SESSION
8.00 - 9.00 am	Doors Open and Registration Check-in
9.00 - 9.30 am	Welcome - MASTER OF CEREMONIES, GEN ILOLAHIA
9.30 - 9.45 am	Opening Pure and 'Imene - REV WILLIAM HAKAORO
9.45 - 10.00 am	Welcome Address - PROF. BRETT COWAN
10.00 - 10.30 am	Plenary Session 1 - DR CORINA GREY Policy systems, and collective action, holistic interdisciplinary Pacific Wellbeing
10.00 - 10.50 am	MORNING TEA
10.50 - 11.20 am	Plenary Session 2 - PROF. RIZ TUPAI-FIRESTONE The future of Pacific health research: equity, culture and holistic wellbeing
11.20 - 12.40 pm	AM Concurrent Session
12.40 - 1.10 pm	LUNCH
1.10 - 1.40 pm	Plenary Session 2 - JOE GLASSIE RASMUSSEN Advancing Pacific Health through culture, engagement, and community
1.40 - 3.00 pm	PM Concurrent Session
3.00 - 3.30 pm	Fia Fia - TE RIRI O TE AO GROUP
3.30 - 3.35	Closing Remarks - GEN ILOLAHIA Closing Pure - REV. WILLIAM HAKAORO

DAY TWO PROGRAMME 2 SEP 2026

TIME	SESSION
8.00 - 9.00 am	Doors Open and Registration Check-in
9.00 - 9.05 am	Master of Ceremonies Welcome - GEN ILOLAHIA
9.05 - 9.20 am	Opening Prayer - REV WILLIAM HAKAORO
9.20 - 9.50 am	Plenary Session 1 - DR ELIZABETH MATI Pacific knowledge, interdisciplinary perspectives and holistic wellbeing within clinical practice
9.50 - 10.20 am	Panel - Building the Next Generation of Health and Wellbeing Leaders Gaioka Joshua Ali'ifa'alogo (Phd Candidate, Moana Connect) Kyani Utia (Phd, AUT) Sereima Dulakiverata (AUT Masters)
10.20 - 10.45 am	MORNING TEA
10.45 - 12.05 pm	AM Concurrent Session
12.05 - 12.45 pm	LUNCH
12.45 - 1.15 pm	Plenary Session 2 - DR AMIO MATENGA-IKIHELE Digital health equity and literacy, current and future innovations in Pacific health
1.15 pm - 2.35 pm	PM Concurrent Session
2.35 - 3.15 pm	VILLAGE TALANOA
3.15 - 3.30	Closing Remarks - GEN ILOLAHIA
	Closing Prayer - REV. WILLIAM HAKAORO



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DAY ONE CONCURRENT STREAMS 1 SEPTEMBER 2026

TIME	SESSION
STREAM 1: ORAL PRESENTATIONS CULTURE, INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE AND PACIFIC HEALTH PRACTICE MH 117	
11.20 – 12.40 pm Chair: Prof. Jacoba Matapo	Suzanne Utai – Psychotherapist Weaving Connections for Healing: A Diverse Culutral Lens Approach to Understanding Intergenerational Trauma in Pasifika Families
	Dr Pari Irai – NorthTec Tai Tokerau Wānanga Psychosocial work risks, cultural contexts, and pacific well-being: Towards a research agenda
	James Uri-Puati & Dr Debi Futter-Puati – AcademyEx Pito'enua: A Cook Islands Model of Health and Wellbeing
	Hanamere Knight – AUT Postgraduate Hina-i-aa-i-te-marama: Basking in the ancestral glow of polynesian feminine cosmology
STREAM 2: ORAL PRESENTATIONS HOLISTIC WELLBEING IMPLEMENTED ACROSS POLICY AND SYSTEMS MH 102 – MAIN FOYER	
11.20 – 12.40 pm Chair: Assoc. Prof. Radilaite Cammock	Atua Asafo – AUT Postgraduate, Dep. Principal Middle School West Auckland A Case Study of how the Vā shapes educational leadership strategies to enhance Pasifika learner wellbeing and outcomes.
	Tupu Sio & Jacqueline Fa'amausili – Moana Connect Programme Coordinator & Project Coordinator Tapuaki – A Pacific-led workforce development Programme Strengthening Maternal and Child Health.
	Dr Alvina Pauvuale – AUT Department of Māori, Pacific & Indigenous Health Reconceptualising South Auckland's Food System: A Talanoa-Based Inquiry into Pacific Food Security.
	Etienne Tapueluelu – Founder, Lelei 'o Tonga Limited How do the changes to the Recognised Seasonal Employer (RSE) scheme impact Pacific migrant workers (PMWs) and their home countries?



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CONCURRENT STREAMS

1 SEPTEMBER 2026

TIME	SESSION
STREAM 3: WORKSHOP POU PASIFIKA – CHAMPIONING PASIFIKA YOUTH DEVELOPMENT WORKERS AND PRACTITIONERS IN AOTEAROA. MH 108	
11.20 – 12.40 pm Chair: Lemoa Henry S Fesuluai	Chillion Sanerivi & Mike Tuala – Pou Pasifika National Manager & Auckland Regional Lead Pou Pasifika: Building a strong Pacific Youth Development Workforce to strengthen youth wellbeing in Aotearoa.
STREAM 1: ORAL PRESENTATIONS CULTURE, INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE, AND PACIFIC HEALTH PRACTICE MH 117	
1.40 – 3.00 pm Chair: Dr Tafili Utumapu-McBride	Professor Albert L. Refiti – AUT, Senior Lecturer Fullbright Visiting Scholar Understanding that vā in Aotearoa New Zealand is different than vā in the homeland is healthy for a diasporic future Fetaui Iosefo – AUT, Lecturer Wayfinding Wellbeing: Tapasā mo 'Āiga as a Relational Praxis for Pacific Wellbeing Kimi Napa – Independent Researcher/ Advisor Teaching & Learning Contractor A Participatory Action Research Inquiry into what Atiu Youth identify as Intrinsic to their Well-being

DAY ONE

CONCURRENT STREAMS

1 SEPTEMBER 2026

TIME	SESSION
STREAM 2: ORAL PRESENTATIONS CLINICAL EVIDENCE, COMMUNITY MOBILISATION & HEALTH EQUITY MH 102 - MAIN FOYER	
1.40 – 3.00 pm Chair: Prof. El-Shadan Tautolo	Janet Masoe-Hundal, Ane Fa’au, & Tusa Lafaele Fono, Moana Connect, Strive Community Trust My Baby's Village – A collective Pacific response to SUDI Prevention in Aotearoa
	Dr Alana McCambridge – AUT, Senior Lecturer Beyond Aggregated Data: Understanding Stroke Across Pacific Ethnic Groups in Auckland
	Dr Ruby Tuesday, Assoc. Prof. Sione Vaka, Michaela Roberts, Manō Faletoease Asafo Moana Connect & HRC Ūloa in Action: Co-designing, Implementing and Evaluating a Pacific Mental Health Service Delivery Model
	Ella Hausia, Victoria Ongolea & 'Emeline Tu'imana University of Auckland, Phd Candidate, Phd Candidate, Ed.D Candidate Talanoa Vā and Wellbeing: A Talanoa on Tongan Women's Doctoral Experiences
STREAM 3: WORKSHOP TAPU TIVAEVAE MH 108	
1.40 – 3.00 pm Chair: Lemoa Henry S Fesuluai	Kyani Utia AUT Postgraduate Tapu Tivaevae: How the tivaevae and its Indigenous practice can be used to facilitate safe conversations around sexual health and wellbeing among aronga mapu (young people)

DAY TWO
CONCURRENT STREAMS
2 SEPTEMBER 2026

TIME	SESSION
STREAM 1: ORAL PRESENTATIONS CULTURE, INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE AND PACIFIC HEALTH PRACTICE MH 117	
10.45 – 12.05 pm Chair: Dr Hilda Port	Lelevaga Epifania Leo'o – Pacific Health Service – Hutt Valley Honouring Va through the Samoan 'Ava Ceremony: Developing a Samoan Framework for Pacific Health Engagement in New Zealand
	Seilosa Patterson – Western Sydney University PhD Candidate The Loud Silence: When Our Island Drums Fall Silent – Towards a Pasifika Understanding of Racism, Racial Harm, and Recovery in the Sydney Diaspora
	Troy Ruhe – University of Otago Research Fellow A Strengths-Based Quantitative Tivaivai Research Framework for Pacific Health Research
STREAM 2: ORAL PRESENTATIONS CLINICAL EVIDENCE, COMMUNITY MOBILISATION & HEALTH EQUITY MH 102 – MAIN FOYER	
10.45 – 12.05 pm Chair: Assoc. Prof. Radilaite Cammock	Eliana Viali & Malia Tagatanu'u – University of Otago Phd Candidate Care for Samoan families living with dementia and stroke
	Jesse Fia'Ali'i Phd Candidate – University of Auckland Understanding Pasifika Experiences of Public Healthcare in Aotearoa New Zealand: A Scoping Review
	Fritz Evile, Joshua Ali'ifa'alogu, Jacqueline Fa'amausili & Michaela Roberts – Moana Connect Pacific Health Science Academy – The Future is Open to Us
	Ania Langi – University of Auckland Cultural Consultation in Pasifika Health and Psychology Research – A Literature Review



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DAY TWO **CONCURRENT STREAMS** 2 SEPTEMBER 2026

TIME	SESSION
STREAM 3: WORKSHOP WORKSHOP MH 108	
10.45 – 12.05 pm Chair: Dagmar Dyck	Fuimaono Nova Tagi – Popupplay When the village plays
STREAM 1: ORAL PRESENTATIONS CULTURE, INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE, AND PACIFIC HEALTH PRACTICE MH 117	
1.15 – 2.35 pm Chair: Prof. Albert L. Refiti	Dr Inano Taripo-Walter – University of Otago Postdoctoral Fellow V'enua Ora: A Cook Islands Māori Framework for Relational Well-being and Indigenous Health Research
	Huw Jones – AcademyEx Director of Māori & Pacific Strategy and Partnerships Wayfinding Futures: An Indigenous Methodology for Wellbeing and Futures Inquiry Grounded in Polynesian Voyaging
	Dr Paul Ripley – AUT, Senior Lecturer Through Their Lens: Participatory Video, Refugee-Background Youth, and Culturally Responsive Health Research in Aotearoa New Zealand.

DAY TWO

CONCURRENT STREAMS

2 SEPTEMBER 2026

TIME	SESSION
STREAM 2: ORAL PRESENTATIONS DIGITAL INNOVATIONS & HEALTH TECHNOLOGIES MH 102 - MAIN FOYER	
1.15 - 2.35 pm Chair: Dr Taniela Lolohea	Lata Paea - University of Auckland Auckland Bioengineering Institute, Phd Candidate Understanding hormonal effects in uterine smooth muscle contractions using mathematical modelling.
	Dr Grace Faletutulu - AUT, Lecturer Reimagining Emotional Wellbeing Through Young Pacific Women's Voices: The Young Pacific Women's Atlas to Emotional Wellbeing
	Dr Lilo Oka Sanerivi - Mātai Medical Research Institute Senior Research Fellow The Fau'olo Framework & Papa Moana - Grounding the advanced future of physiotherapy, rehabilitation and cancer journeys in te Moananui
	Dr Alana McCambridge - AUT, Senior Lecturer Co-designing a Pacific Approach to Outcome Measurement in Rehabilitation
STREAM 3: WORKSHOP HEALING EFFECTS OF SIVA SAMOA EMBODIMENT MH 108	
1.15 - 2.35 pm Chair: Dagmar Dyck	Iatua Felagai Taito - University of Auckland Phd Candidate Healing effects of Siva Samoa embodiment