

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

Organised By:

PACTALS
Pan-Asian Consortium for Treatment and Research in ALS

mnd 
Australia

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Australia

PACTALS 2025



7 - 9 September 2025



**Melbourne Convention
Exhibiton Centre, Australia**

About PACTALS



The Pan-Asian Consortium for Treatment and Research in ALS (PACTALS) was established in December, 2014. The concept is similar to other regional existing Consortia namely the North-East Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (NEALS) in the United States and European Network for the Cure of ALS (ENCALS). PACTALS represents a large ALS/Motor Neurone Disease (MND) community including the very active research groups in the Asia – Pacific region.

Our objectives include:

1. Developing an Asia-Pacific network of researchers and clinicians working with ALS/MND that:
 - Is recognised within the international ALS/MND network.
 - Can work collaboratively in an efficient and effective manner.
 - Will attract pharmaceutical companies to conduct trials in Asia-Pacific region.
 - Will support the education and training of members to achieve the overall objectives.
2. Establishing a Patient Registry within the Asia-Pacific region that will facilitate the collection/ storage of clinical data.
3. Initiating collaboration between funding agencies in Asia-Pacific to collectively sponsor investigator-initiated clinical trials.





PACTALS 2025 Committee

Convenor:

Paul Talman & Clare Sullivan

Scientific Programme Committee:

1. Paul Talman
2. Shyuan Ngo
3. Gen Sobue
4. Nortina Shahrizaila
5. Seung Hyun Kim
6. Mathew Kiernan

Local Organising Committee:

Co-chairs: Paul Talman & Thanuja Dharmadasa

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Clare Sullivan | 7. Merrilee Needham |
| 2. David Schultz | 8. Robert Henderson |
| 3. Jo Whitehouse | 9. Samar Aoun |
| 4. Madeleine Catlin | 10. Sicong Tu |
| 5. Marnie Graco | 11. Steve Vucic |
| 6. Mary-Louise Rogers | 12. Susan Mathers |

International Advisory Committee:

International Alliance of ALS/MND Associations:

Cathy Cummings & Jessica Mabe

China:

Liyong Cui, Dongsheng Fan

India:

Hemangi Sane, Atcharayam Nalini

Indonesia:

Ahmad Yanuar Syafri, Manfaluthy Hakim, Sheila Agustini

Japan:

Satoshi Kuwabara, Naoki Atsuta

Korea:

Jung-Joon Sung, Bugyeong Son, Yoon-Ho Hong

Malaysia:

Rabani Remli, Steve Ng, Dhayalen Krishnan

Myanmar:

Phyu Phyu Lay, Win Min Thit, Zin Nwe Win

Phillipines:

Mario Prado, Raymond Rosales

Singapore:

Josiah Chai, Kay Ng

Taiwan:

Yi Chung Li, Chaur Jong Hu, Chih Chao Yang

Thailand:

Kongkiat Kulkantrakorn, Arada Rojana-Udomsart

Vietnam:

Tu Quoc Le Tuan

Welcoming Message from Convenor of PACTALS 2025



Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the organising committee, it is with great pleasure that we invite you to join us at the PACTALS 2025 Conference, taking place from 7th to 9th September 2025 in the vibrant city of Melbourne, Australia. Under the theme “Towards Precision in ALS/MND Treatments,” this conference promises to be a pivotal event in the field of ALS and motor neurone disease (MND) research and treatment.

PACTALS 2025 will bring together leading experts, researchers, clinicians, and advocates from across the globe, all driven by a shared commitment to advancing our understanding of ALS/MND and improving the lives of those affected by these conditions. The conference will feature the latest research, innovative therapeutic approaches, and inspiring discussions aimed at pushing the boundaries of precision medicine in ALS/MND treatment.

Melbourne, renowned as a dynamic multicultural society, provides the perfect backdrop for this gathering. We are confident that the scientific program, coupled with the unique networking opportunities and international collaborative spirit, will make PACTALS 2025 an unforgettable and enriching experience for all.

We warmly encourage you to join us in Melbourne for this landmark event. Together, we can advance the future of ALS/MND care and create meaningful progress in the journey towards precision treatments. We look forward to welcoming you in 2025!

Paul Talman
Convenor of PACTALS 2025

Welcoming Message from President of PACTALS



Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) has long been synonymous with neurological diseases for which there is no cure. However, recent advances in molecular biology, genomic research, and therapeutic intervention techniques have expanded the possibilities for therapeutic development. ALS is now one of the most active neurodegenerative diseases in the field of therapeutic development research. A wealth of knowledge and data has been accumulated in medical treatment and care, and appropriate interventions have been identified. There is much we can and should do for people with ALS.

Although it is assumed that there are many commonalities among patients worldwide, it is also becoming clear that the etiology, pathophysiology, and course of the disease vary considerably from region to region and from patient to patient. Both international collaboration and country-specific efforts are needed to advance the development of ALS treatments and improve medical care. In Asia and Oceania, where the number of patients is expected to increase in the future, there is a need for a consortium to share information and promote international collaborative efforts in each country.

The concept of Pan-Asian Consortium for Treatment and Research in ALS (PACTALS) was established in December 2014 as a research consortium for ALS in the Asia-Pacific region. Since then, the PACTALS members have been working to promote research collaborations in the region. After the success of the PACTALS 2018 meeting in Seoul (Convener: Prof. Seung H Kim), the PACTALS 2020 meeting was planned to be held in Nagoya, Japan in September 2020. Unfortunately, due to the covid-19 pandemic, we decided to hold it as PACTALS 2021 on the full web (Convener: Prof. Gen Sobue). And the PACTALS 2023 meeting (Convener: Prof. Nortina Shahrizaila) was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, with great success.

The next PACTALS 2025 will be held in Melbourne, Australia, with Prof. Paul Talman as Convener. The theme will be “Towards Precision in ALS/MND Treatments”. We are confident that this will be a wonderful opportunity to learn about the latest developments in ALS treatment and to gain guidance to advance our efforts based on local realities. To all those working with ALS, welcome to PACTALS 2025.

Gen Sobue
President of PACTALS

Welcoming Message from President-Elect of PACTALS



On behalf of the Pan-Asian Consortium for Treatment and Research in ALS (PACTALS), together with our local hosts, Professor Paul Talman, Professor Matthew Kiernan as well as MND Australia, it is a pleasure to welcome you to PACTALS 2025 which will be held in Melbourne, Australia.

The theme of PACTALS 2025, “Towards Precision in ALS/MND Treatments”, aims to facilitate and enhance discussions and collaborations centered around personalised drug discovery in ALS/MND, as well as other areas of research and care.

As our network of Asia-Pacific ALS/MND community continues to grow and gain strides in uncovering knowledge of the disease in our unique cohorts, we look forward to sharing this knowledge in the hopes of moving us closer towards a world free of MND/ALS.

Nortina Shahrizaila
President-Elect of PACTALS



Welcoming Message from Immediate Past President of PACTALS



Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Pan-Asian Consortium for the Treatment and Research in ALS (PACTALS), it is my pleasure to invite you to attend the PACTALS 2025 Meeting, scheduled to be held in Melbourne, Australia, from September 7th to 9th, 2025.

Asia is home to more than half of the world's population, and consequently, it represents the largest cohort of ALS patients. Despite this, our understanding of ALS, particularly in terms of the disease's prevalence and characteristics within and across Asian populations, remains insufficient. To address this, PACTALS was founded in 2014 to advance treatment development and foster novel research initiatives in the region. Since 2016, the PACTALS meeting has become a cornerstone event, with previous gatherings successfully hosted in Seoul (2018), Nagoya (2021), and Kuala Lumpur (2023). Following the highly successful meeting in Kuala Lumpur, I am confident that the 2025 PACTALS meeting in Melbourne will continue this legacy, offering an excellent platform to connect, collaborate, and share the latest advancements in ALS research and treatment.

As our consortium grows, this is an opportune time to deepen our collective knowledge of ALS in the Asia-Pacific region. The PACTALS 2025 Scientific Committee has worked diligently to curate a world-class program featuring renowned experts in ALS from around the globe alongside esteemed clinicians and researchers from across Asia.

Your participation will undoubtedly enrich the discussions and drive forward our shared goals in ALS research and treatment. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the PACTALS 2025 organizing committee for their efforts in preparing this meeting and to all PACTALS members for their ongoing dedication and contributions.

We look forward to welcoming you to the vibrant city of Melbourne for what promises to be an exceptional event. I hope to see you there!
Warm regards,

Seung Hyun Kim
Immediate Past President of PACTALS

Programme Overview

SEPT 7
Sunday

0700 - 0800	Registration
0800 - 1800	MND Research Session and MND Care Session and Workshops

SEPT 8
Monday

0700 - 1830	Registration
0800 - 0830	Opening Ceremony
0830 - 1030	Plenary 1
1030 - 1100	Break
1100 - 1230	Plenary 2
1245 - 1400	Industry Lunch Symposia 1
1400 - 1530	Scientific Symposia
1530 - 1600	Tea Symposia 1
1600 - 1730	Poster Tour
1730 - 1830	Evening Industry Symposia

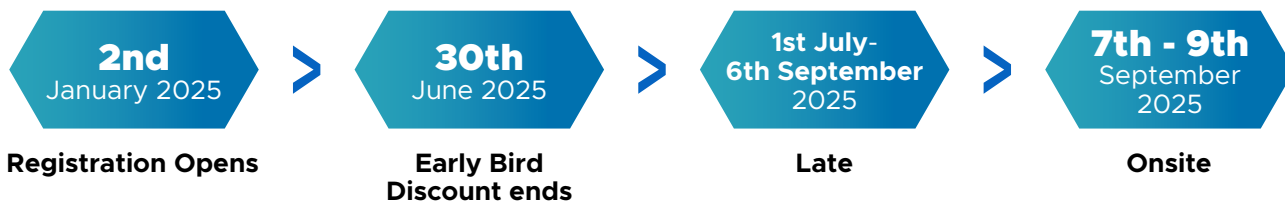
SEPT 9
Tuesday

0700 - 1800	Registration
0800 - 0830	Breakfast Symposia 2 (Industry)
0830 - 1000	Plenary 3
1000 - 1030	Break
1030 - 1245	Scientific Symposia
1245 - 1400	Industry Lunch Symposia 2
1400 - 1530	Scientific Symposia
1530 - 1600	Tea Symposia 2
1600 - 1730	Plenary 4
1730 - 1800	Closing Ceremony

Registration

Registration will start on 2nd January 2025.

Important Dates:



Congress Day 1 Registration Fees (7th September 2025)

	Early Bird 2nd January – 30th June 2025	Late 1st July – 6th September 2025	Onsite 7th September - 9th September 2025
*Congress Workshops	AUD 80	AUD 95	AUD 110
MND Care Session (with main congress registration)	AUD 80	AUD 95	AUD 110
MND Research Session (with main congress registration)	AUD 80	AUD 95	AUD 110
MND Care Session only (Day pass)	AUD 200	AUD 250	AUD 280
MND Research Session only (Day pass)	AUD 200	AUD 250	AUD 280

*Please note that registration for the main congress is required in order to attend the workshops.

Registration

Congress Day 2 & 3 Registration Fees (8th September – 9th September 2025)

	Early Bird 2nd January – 30th June 2025	Late 1st July – 6th September 2025	Onsite 7th September - 9th September 2025
	Australian		
Local - Specialists	AUD 600	AUD 650	AUD 850
Local - Trainees and Students, Allied Health Professionals	AUD 250	AUD 270	AUD 350
	International		
Regular	AUD 550	AUD 600	AUD 700
Regular (Low/Middle Income Countries*)	AUD 50	AUD 100	AUD 300
International- Allied Health Professionals, Volunteer Participants, Medical Students#	AUD 230	AUD 310	AUD 460

Allied Health Professionals refers to Non-Clinicians and includes Technologists, Nurses and Therapists.

To be eligible for the low and middle income countries rate, kindly upload your passport to proof your nationality while creating your congress account. Without documentation, the delegate will be charged the regular rate. You could find the list of countries on our website: <https://www.pactalscongress.com/registration>

Registration

Payment

All payments are to be issued in favour of:

Account Name: Motor Neurone Disease Association of Australia
Bank Name: The Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA)
BSB: 062-908
Account Number: 10975035
BIC/SWIFT Code: CTBAAU2S
Bank Branch: Woden Branch
Bank Address: 003A/6 WF, 13 Keltie St, Wooden, ACT 2606

Cancellation and Refund Policy

Please be advised that refunds are subject to an administration fee of AUD 50.00

- **Before or on 31st May 2025:** 50% refund
- **On or after 1st June 2025:** No refund

Instead of requesting for refund, we suggest finding a colleague to take over your ticket. Transfer of ticket can only be done between individuals of the same registration categories.

Any request for refund or transfer of ticket has to be made officially via writing to the secretariat email at secretariat@pactalscongress.com

Invoice and Receipt

After payment is verified, invoice and receipt can be downloaded from the user dashboard.

Certificate of Attendance

Certificate of attendance can be downloaded from the user dashboard after the congress. Please log in to your user dashboard to submit the feedback form to download your certificate.

Liability

The Organising Committee will not be liable for personal accidents, loss or damage to private property of the participants during the duration of the Congress. Participants should make their own personal arrangements.

Disclaimer

Whilst every attempt is made to ensure that all aspects of the congress as mentioned in this announcement will take place as scheduled, the Organising Committee reserves the right to make last minute changes should the need arise.

Abstract Submission

Abstract submissions will open on 2nd January 2025 on the congress website

<https://www.pactalscongress.com/>

Important Dates:



Cash award awaits the Best Oral & Poster Presentation for the Clinical & Basic Science Category!

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- Presentation type (please choose your preference)
 - » Oral presentation
 - » Poster presentation
- Abstract must be submitted online via the Congress website.
- Tables, graphs and images are not permitted.
- Abstract submitted by fax, email or post will not be accepted.
- Abstract must be submitted on or before 1st March 2025. The online submission system will close at midnight GMT+11 on this day.
- Abstract must be received by the announced deadline. Abstract received after the deadline will not be considered.
- Please do not submit multiple copies of the same abstract.
- Abstracts must be original. Please refer to separate guidelines regarding Encore Abstracts.
- Encore Abstracts:
 - » Encore Abstracts are abstracts that have recently been presented at other meetings or recently published.
 - » They can be submitted and will be subject to the reviewing process on the suitability of the topic presented for the Congress.
 - » These abstracts will only be considered for poster presentation and are not eligible for the Best Abstract Awards.
 - » Authors must supply information regarding the original presentation, indicating the name of the meeting and publication number at the time of submission.

CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT AND NOTIFICATION OF DECISION

- After submitting your abstract, you will receive an email confirmation that your abstract has been received, indicating the abstract number which it has been allocated.
- Please refer to this abstract number in all correspondence regarding the abstract.
- Please contact the Secretariat if you submitted an abstract and do not receive an email confirmation.
- All abstracts will be forwarded to the Scientific Program Committee for review.
- Notifications regarding status of your abstract will be sent once the review process is complete.
- The presenting author will be informed of the presentation details, including presentation type (oral or poster), scheduled presentation day and time.

PRESENTATION AT THE CONGRESS

Instructions for preparation of poster presentations will be sent together with acceptance notifications. The committee will endeavor to schedule abstracts according to authors' preferences but reserves the right to decide on the final form of presentation

Abstract Submission

PREPARING YOUR ABSTRACT FOR SUBMISSION

- The abstract should be as informative as possible and include the following details:

Format: Research

1. Introduction: background and specific objective of the study
2. Methods: description of methods used
3. Results: summary of results obtained
4. Conclusion: conclusion reached

Format: Study format/ Case study format:

1. Introduction: background and specific objective of the study
2. Report: details on your study
3. Conclusion: conclusion reached

- It is not acceptable to simply state like “The results will be discussed”.
- Abstracts must meet the following specifications:
- Abstract title: Limited to 25 words in UPPER CASE
- Abstract should be accompanied by the authors’ names and affiliations.
- Abstract text: Limited to 300 words (NOT including Authors and Affiliations)
- Abstract topic: Abstract must be allocated to a specific topic from below
 - » Genomics
 - » Epidemiology
 - » Clinical Management
 - » Molecular Pathogenesis
 - » Disease Spectrum/Stratification
 - » Nutritional Management
 - » Biomarkers
 - » Clinical Neurophysiology and Imaging
 - » Respiratory Management
 - » Neuroinflammation
 - » Clinical Trial and Platforms
 - » Assistive Technology
 - » Others
- Use only standard abbreviations. Special or unusual abbreviations are not recommended. If otherwise necessary, the latter should be placed in parenthesis after the first mentioned of the full word.
- All abstracts must be submitted and presented in clear English with accurate grammar and spelling of a quality suitable for publication.

PACTALS Awards

****Submission of nomination will start on 2nd January 2025***

The main purpose of the PACTALS Awards is to pay tribute to individuals within the Asia-Pacific region who have made significant contributions towards improving the lives of people living with ALS.

There are two categories:



This Award recognises the outstanding contribution in the clinical practice of ALS.

The criteria for nominees are as follows:

- Working predominantly in direct clinical care.
- Exhibit excellence in one or more of the following areas:
 - » Clinical care.
 - » Clinical research.
 - » Patient or community education.
 - » Community service and service to a national or state als society.
- Recognition in publications in medical journals will also be taken into consideration.

1 Recipient



This Award acknowledges the outstanding contribution of non-clinicians in advocating as well as improving delivery of care for people living with ALS.

The criteria for nominees are as follows:

- Individuals or groups from the allied health professionals, patient advocacy groups, philanthropy
- Exhibiting excellence in one or more of the following:
 - » Promoting the improvement of services for people living with ALS.
 - » Influencing public policy and/or public opinion locally or in the region.
 - » Outstanding commitment through financial support.
 - » Encouragement and motivation of others to take leadership roles toward philanthropy and community involvement.

1 Recipient

Guidelines for nominations of individuals by others

Nominations should be compelling, describing the nominee's contributions and the impact of their contribution to the ALS community in not more than 500 words.

1. Nominee's Name with title.
2. Nominee's Institute:
3. Describe the nominee's contribution(s) and the impact(s) of their contribution to the ALS/MND committee (500 words).

Venue

Melbourne Convention Centre

The Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC) is Australia's largest and most versatile conference and event space, renowned for its world-class facilities and iconic architecture. Located on the banks of the Yarra River, MCEC seamlessly blends modern design with state-of-the-art technology to provide an exceptional experience for attendees.

Getting to MCEC

Reaching the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre is simple, thanks to its prime location and excellent connectivity.

By Public Transport

- **Tram:**
Tram routes 96, 109, and 12 stop directly at the MCEC (Stop D5: Clarendon Street/Jacobs Street).

Trams within Melbourne's central business district are free, including the routes to MCEC.

- **Train:**
Southern Cross Station is a 10-minute walk from MCEC, offering connections to regional and metropolitan rail networks.

By Car

- **Parking:**
MCEC offers on-site parking facilities, including undercover and open-air options. Nearby parking is also available at the DFO South Wharf and Siddeley Street Car Park.
- **Ride-Share & Taxi:**
Drop-off points are conveniently located at the main entrances along Convention Centre Place and Clarendon Street.

By Air

- **Melbourne Airport (Tullamarine):**
MCEC is approximately 25 minutes by car from Melbourne Airport. SkyBus provides a shuttle service to Southern Cross Station, with onward connections to the venue.
- **Avalon Airport:**
Located about 50 minutes away by car, Avalon Airport offers shuttle services to Melbourne's city centre.

By Foot

If you're staying in Melbourne's CBD, MCEC is within walking distance via Southbank Promenade or the Yarra Pedestrian Bridge, offering scenic views of the river along the way. Visit our website, <https://www.pactalscongress.com/> for hotels nearby the convention center.



Organised By:



Supported By:



PACTALS 2025



Medical Conference Partners
Officially Appointed Congress Secretariat

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