



MEDIA RELEASE

26 September 2016

The BluePrint for a Stronger Australian MedTech Industry

More than 200 delegates from around the world will explore ways to make the latest medical technology (MedTech) more accessible for doctors and patients at the 2016 Medical Technology Association of Australia (MTAA) Annual Conference.

The Annual Conference will take place at the Australian Technology Park Eveleigh, Sydney, from 27-28 September and explore themes around developing a blueprint for a stronger Australian MedTech industry. Speakers include:

- The Hon Sussan Ley MP, Minister for Health, Aged Care and Sport
- The Hon Craig Laundy MP, Assistant Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science
- Bill Ferris AC, Chair of Innovation Australia
- Dr Les Levin, Chief Scientific Officer EXCITE International
- Robert Donnelly, Senior Director, Johnson & Johnson (US)
- Steve Sadler, Chief Technical Officer, Tunstall (UK)
- Andrew Stuart, Deputy Secretary of the Department of Health
- Adj Prof John Skerritt, Deputy Secretary of the Department of Health
- Alison Verhoeven, Chief Executive of the Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association
- David Morgan, Chair, Prostheses Listings Advisory Committee

The MTAA Annual Awards Dinner will announce the winners of the Kerrin Rennie Award which acknowledges a company's extraordinary contribution to the Australian medical technology industry.

Other winners to be announced include the Outstanding Achievement Award for an individual's contribution to Medtech and the recipient of the MTAA Life Membership Award.

Gavin Fox-Smith, Chairman of the Medical Technology Association of Australia said:

"Healthcare in Australia is undergoing a fundamental shift in structure and operations.

"The Medical Technology sector is at the forefront of this change as we continue to collaborate broadly with all stakeholders toward achieving the best health outcomes for all Australians.

"Our willingness to contribute in a positive way has been acknowledged as constructive, as is demonstrated by the distinguished speakers focusing on policy and innovation."

Allison Fox, co-lead of the Medical Technology Association of Australia said:

"It is important to keep up with the latest MedTech innovation which is revolutionising healthcare.

"This conference will not only showcase the most recent MedTech innovations from all over the world but provide a forum to exchange idea with industry leaders, local and international.

“The MTAA thanks our sponsors in helping to allow the MedTech industry to showcase their life-changing technologies.”

ENDS

Highlights of the Conference include:

Day One – 27 September

9.10 – 9.50am

Bill Ferris AC, Chair Innovation Australia

Innovation Australia is an independent body, which was established by the Government to enhance Australia’s innovation performance. He will discuss what changes are necessary for meaningful improvement in commercialisation.

9.50-10.35am

Michael McQueen, Leading Authority on Change and Staying Ahead of the Curve

The future success and survival of many businesses and organisations will rest on their ability to anticipate, prepare for and even pre-empt change.

11.55-12.15pm

The Hon Craig Laundy MP, Assistant Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science

Highlighting Government initiatives in context of opportunities and challenges for advanced technology manufacturing in the health sector.

3.35-4.25pm

Dr Les Levin, Chief Scientific Officer EXCITE International

Dr Les Levin will focus his talk on the dysfunctionality of the existing process to get from innovation to adoption of medical technologies and how a more collaborative and inclusive approach that uses evidence to drive changing the way we approach innovation.

Day Two – 28 September

9.05-9.20am

Steve Sadler, Chief Technical Officer, Tunstall UK

How can emergent technologies such as the internet of things, Smart Homes, Cloud and Big Data reconcile with regulated healthcare services?

9.20-10.00am

Bob Donnelly, Senior Director, Health Policy, Johnson and Johnson (US)

Overseas Health Funding Learnings from Bob Donnelly who prior to entering our industry held senior roles within the US Government working on Medicare & Medicaid.

10.30-11.10am

Adj Prof John Skerritt, Deputy Secretary for Health Products Regulation

What changes can we expect for medical technology, and how can we balance the need to protect patient safety with enhanced access to market for products? How does the TGA align with international efforts for regulatory harmonisation?

2.00-2.20pm

The Hon Sussan Ley, Minister for Health, Minister for Aged Care and Minister for Sport

Media contact:

Polo Guilbert-Wright | 0409 631 828 | polo@mtaa.org.au

Notes to Editors:

The Twitter hashtag for the Conference is **#mtaa16**

About MTAA:

The Medical Technology Association of Australia (MTAA) is the national association representing companies in the medical technology industry. MTAA aims to ensure the benefits of modern, innovative and reliable medical technology are delivered effectively to provide better health outcomes to the Australian community.

MTAA represents manufacturers and suppliers of medical technology used in the diagnosis, prevention, treatment and management of disease and disability. The range of medical technology is diverse with products ranging from familiar items such as syringes and wound dressings, through to high-technology implanted devices such as pacemakers, defibrillators, hip and other orthopaedic implants. Products also include hospital and diagnostic imaging equipment such as ultrasounds and magnetic resonance imaging machines.

MTAA members distribute the majority of the non-pharmaceutical products used in the diagnosis and treatment of disease and disability in Australia. Our member companies also play a vital role in providing healthcare professionals with essential education and training to ensure safe and effective use of medical technology.