



MEDIA RELEASE
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MEDTECH20 GOES VIRTUAL

More than 300 medical technology (MedTech) leaders from Australia, and around the world, will take part in the annual MedTech20 conference, hosted by the Medical Technology Association of Australia (MTAA) over the next three days. (26 – 28 October 2020).

The annual conference brings together industry leaders, innovators, academics, policy-makers, researchers and clinicians to share their insights, experiences and achievements in new and cutting-edge MedTech that helps to improve the lives of Australians.

This year's conference, which is being held virtually due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, includes 17 different sessions and multiple streaming options focused on particular topics that attendees can choose between.

MTAA CEO, Ian Burgess, said the MedTech20 conference was continuing to lead by example during the pandemic, by showing how the MedTech industry has quickly adapted to the challenges posed by COVID-19, not just with the reformatted virtual MedTech2020 conference, but also with the once in a 100-year effort the MedTech industry as a whole has undertaken with the Government to coordinate Australia's response to the pandemic.

"MTAA has taken this opportunity to transform how our conference is conducted, making every session tailored and easily accessible to participants, including live recordings so participants can stream them back in future," Mr Burgess said.

Minister for Health, the Hon. Greg Hunt MP opened the conference by "acknowledging the profound role of the medical device and technology sector in helping Australia through COVID in a way very few other countries have been able to achieve." The Minister for Industry, Science and Technology, the Hon. Karen Andrews MP will address the conference later today.

This year's conference also features a who's-who of industry leaders and experts, including:

- Dr Sarah Aitken, Vascular & Endovascular Surgeon, Concord Repatriation General Hospital and Clinical Academic, University of Sydney
- Mr Andrew Frye, Senior Vice President & President, APAC, Baxter Healthcare, Chairman of APACMed
- Adj. Prof. John Skerritt, Deputy Secretary, Health Products Regulation Group, Therapeutic Goods Administration

There is still time to secure a ticket to the MedTech20 conference by visiting <https://www.medtech20.org.au/>.

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Did you know?

1. The medical technology industry currently employs more than 19,000 people.
2. During COVID-19 the MedTech industry supplied 7,500 ventilators, billions of dollars' worth of PPE, and over 8 million COVID-19 test kits.
3. The industry is highly skilled, with over 52% of employees having a tertiary qualification, and 25% having a postgraduate qualification.
4. More than half of Australian medical device companies have grown from start-ups. 40% of all medical device businesses have been established since 2000.
5. In 2013-14, Australia exported medical devices to 167 different countries around the world for a total value of \$2.1 billion.
6. Medical technology (7.76%) is second only to Civil Engineering (8.5%) and pharmaceuticals in third (6.3%) when it comes to filing patents for innovative technology.

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.