



Updated: 26 August, 2025
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September 3 - 4
2025

Melbourne
AUS



MELBOURNE

AU PHARMA AND BIOTECH PROJECT, PROGRAM AND PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

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Event Overview



The **AU Pharma and Biotech Project, Program and Portfolio Management Conference** is the premier gathering for life sciences executives, portfolio leaders, and decision-makers in pharma, biotech, medtech, and diagnostics. As the Australian life sciences industry continues to evolve into a global leader in innovation, strategic portfolio management has never been more critical. This conference provides a deep dive into the latest trends, challenges, and best practices for optimizing portfolio performance, enhancing decision-making, and leveraging AI and digital transformation for business success.

Through insightful keynotes, case studies, panel discussions, and interactive roundtables, attendees will gain actionable strategies to drive innovation, balance risk, and execute high-impact portfolio decisions in an increasingly complex and competitive market.



What to Expect?



Key Topics:

📌 **Balancing Innovation, Risk, and Execution in Life Sciences Portfolios**

Discover how to navigate funding constraints and regulatory complexity while optimizing portfolio decision-making to drive growth and impact.

📌 **From Overloaded to Optimized – Smarter Portfolio Prioritization**

Learn how to master resource allocation, trade-offs, and scenario planning to maximize ROI and keep your projects on track in a competitive market.

📌 **AI & Advanced Analytics – The Future of Project & Portfolio Management**

Uncover how predictive modeling, real-time dashboards, and automation are transforming forecasting, risk assessment, and execution speed.

📌 **Agility in PPM – Balancing Flexibility with Compliance**

Explore how to implement hybrid and agile methodologies while ensuring regulatory adherence in an evolving pharma and biotech landscape.

📌 **Scaling PPM from Strategy to Execution**

Overcome execution bottlenecks and cross-functional misalignment to ensure seamless project delivery and business success.

Key Features:

📌 **Expert-Led Keynotes:** Hear from top industry leaders on how to connect global portfolio vision with regional action, and how Project Portfolio Management (PPM) is driving drug access and advancing industry growth.

📌 **Interactive Panel Discussions:** Engage with experts in discussions on aligning global objectives with local realities, fostering collaboration within the PMO for seamless project delivery, and overcoming talent gaps in PPM.

📌 **Practical Case Studies:** Learn from leading companies on transforming big ideas into clinical development successes, delivering complex manufacturing projects, and tackling regional challenges in multi-program execution.

📌 **Actionable Sessions:** Participate in sessions focused on future-proofing your project and program with scenario planning, making portfolio decisions work locally through prioritization and trade-offs, and measuring success with KPIs that drive results.

📌 **Roundtable Discussions** – Join peer-driven, topic-focused roundtables designed to facilitate deeper conversations, exchange of best practices, and collaborative problem-solving on key challenges in pharma and biotech project, program, and portfolio management.

Who Should Attend?

This event is designed for senior professionals and decision-makers in the life sciences industry, including:

- 📌 **Portfolio & Program Managers** – Responsible for overseeing multiple projects and ensuring strategic alignment.
- 📌 **R&D Leaders** – Managing innovation pipelines and investment decisions.
- 📌 **Business & Corporate Strategy Executives** – Driving long-term growth through effective portfolio prioritization.
- 📌 **Financial & Investment Managers** – Assessing ROI and risk mitigation in portfolio execution.
- 📌 **Regulatory & Compliance Professionals** – Navigating complex regulations while maintaining project agility.
- 📌 **AI, Data Science & IT Leaders** – Leveraging digital tools for predictive analytics and decision support.
- 📌 **Clinical Development Executives** – Streamlining clinical trial efficiency through better resource management.
- 📌 **Mergers & Acquisitions (M&A) Specialists** – Aligning portfolio strategy with corporate growth objectives.
- 📌 **Innovation & Digital Transformation Leaders** – Exploring AI, automation, and cutting-edge tools for PPM success.

Why Attend?

Join the AU Pharma & Biotech Project, Program, and Portfolio Management Conference to gain cutting-edge insights, strategies, and connections that will help you navigate the evolving landscape of life sciences portfolio management.

- 📌 **Elevate Your Portfolio Strategy** – Learn how to align portfolio management with corporate growth objectives, ensuring both operational excellence and long-term strategic success.
- 📌 **Optimize Portfolio Decision-Making** – Master data-driven approaches to balancing innovation, risk, and investment priorities for maximum portfolio impact.
- 📌 **Leverage AI & Advanced Analytics** – Discover how AI-driven forecasting, predictive modeling, and real-time dashboards enhance portfolio visibility, efficiency, and decision-making.
- 📌 **Streamline Resource Allocation** – Learn how to align R&D, regulatory, and commercial priorities while managing financial and operational constraints.
- 📌 **Drive Digital Transformation** – Explore cutting-edge tools and technologies that improve scenario planning, project tracking, and risk assessment.
- 📌 **Enhance Execution & Agility** – Implement hybrid and agile methodologies to improve execution while ensuring compliance in highly regulated environments.
- 📌 **Improve Stakeholder Collaboration** – Break down silos and align cross-functional teams to foster a culture of transparency, efficiency, and innovation.
- 📌 **Future-Proof Portfolio Management** – Stay ahead of emerging trends in AI, automation, and digital transformation to ensure sustained portfolio success.
- 📌 **Expand Your Network** – Connect with industry peers, thought leaders, and decision-makers driving innovation in PPM, R&D, and corporate strategy.

Testimonials



Abhishek Mittal
(MBA, PMP®, IRMCert®, GRCP®)
Vice President and Head - Project
Management Office (PMO)
Neuland Laboratories Limited
★★★★★

Had the pleasure of participating in a panel discussion today at '2nd Strategic Project, Program and Portfolio Management conference for Pharmaceuticals' organised by Why Summits on the critical role of internal stakeholders in driving project success. Grateful to have exchanged insights with industry leaders on how to build these connections and unlock potential from within. We continuously strive to implement these best practices at Neuland Laboratories Limited.



Peter C. Luke
Project Corporate Vice President - API
Expansion
Novo Nordisk
★★★★★

Thanks for the opportunity to share lessons learned at the conference. Also, very well planned and managed event with great speakers and highly relevant network.



Christophe De Vleeschouwer
Director, Pipeline Project Management
GSK Vaccines
★★★★★

Very good and engaging discussion! Thanks Why Summits for being part of the panel.



David Swift
Senior Procurement Leader
Lonza
★★★★★

Great discussions and insights from some of the best in the business.



Blerim Shkodra
Sr Director Capital Procurement & Category
Leader
Lonza
★★★★★

It was a real pleasure being part of this great event.

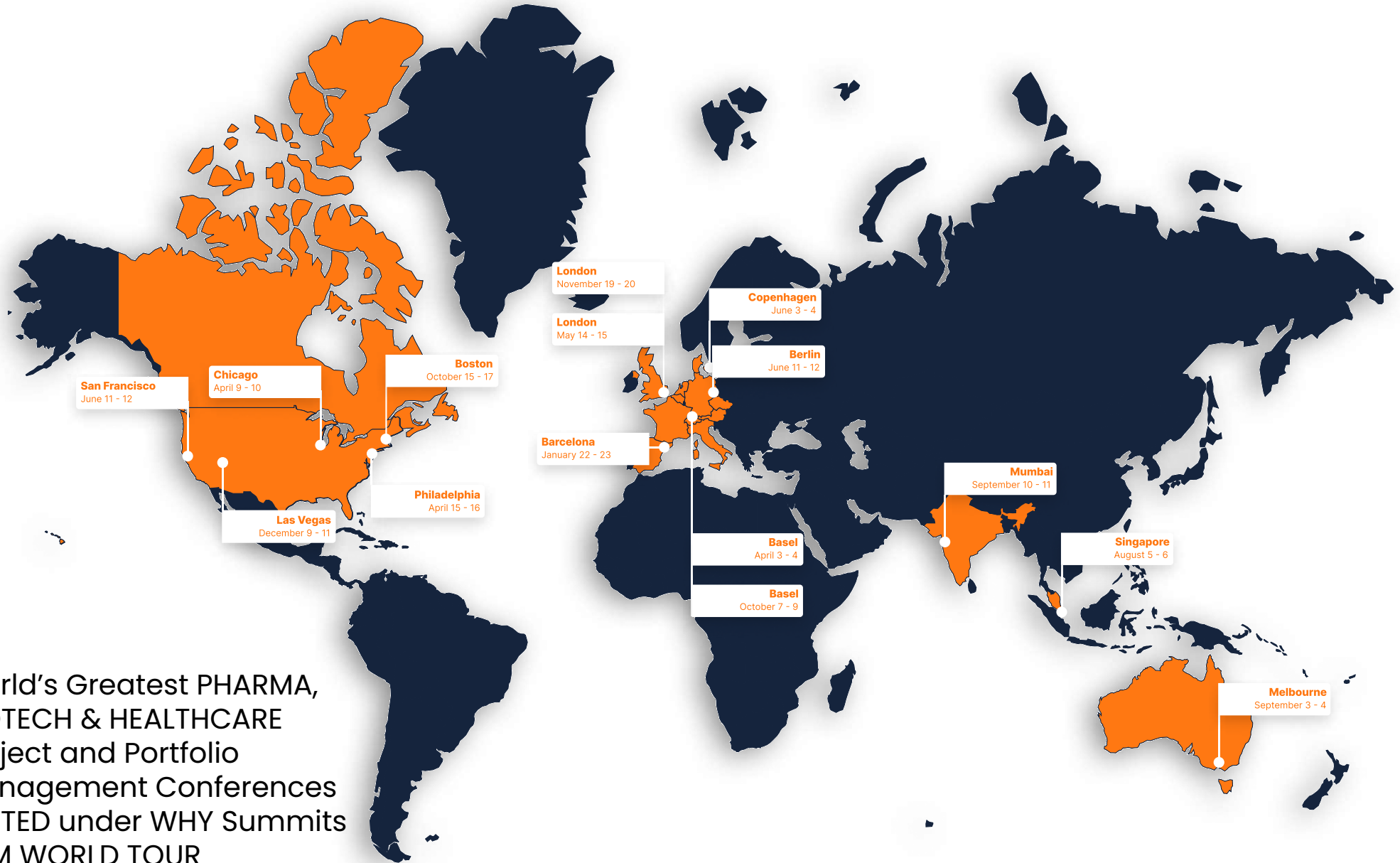


Stephen Smith
Senior Program Director, Oncology
Senior Program Director, Oncology
Corcept Therapeutics
★★★★★

Another great Why Summits conference in the books!



2025 World Tour at a Glance



World's Greatest PHARMA,
BIOTECH & HEALTHCARE
Project and Portfolio
Management Conferences
UNITED under WHY Summits
PPM WORLD TOUR

Industry **Pioneers** Attending From



GSK  *Pfizer* *Lilly*  **MERCK**  **Roche** **sanofi** *AstraZeneca* 

 **Bristol Myers Squibb**  **NOVARTIS** **abbvie**  **Boehringer Ingelheim** **Johnson&Johnson**

AMGEN  **VERTEX**  **Genmab**  **GILEAD**  *Takeda*  **novo nordisk**

 **BAYER** **teva**  **Biogen**  **Daiichi-Sankyo** **CSL**  **Otsuka**  **Adaptimmune**

 **Mylan**  *astellas*  **VIATRIS** **SANDOZ** **BIONTECH** *moderna*

Confirmed Speakers



Amanda Mao
Alliance Management
Lead
Keros Therapeutics



Anne Woollett
Clinical Trials Director,
TrialHub
Alfred Health



Annette Murphy
Head of Scientific
Operations
Incisive Technologies



Anubhav Srivastava
Associate Director, Drug
Development
Dimerix Biosciences



Ben Laverty
Vice President, Clinical
Operations
IQVIA



Bradley Joblin
Founder & Managing
Director
Armstrong Clinical



Chris Quinn
Director, CMC Lead, Head
of CMC Science
CSL



Debra Bourke
Interim Supporting Vice
President
Medical Affairs
Professionals of
Australasia (MAPA)



Divya Pasupleti
President
PMI Melbourne Chapter



Emma Pinkerton
Director, Global Site
Management
Abbvie



Inus Janse van Rensburg
Senior Program Manager
IDT Australia



Fardaad Choksey
Associate Medical
Director, Oncology – ANZ
Astrazeneca



Gail Wiggins
Director Project
Management
CSL



Jacqui Cumming
Senior Director Clinical
Development
Arovela Therapeutics

Confirmed Speakers



Jolanta Airey
Chief Medical Officer
Cynata Therapeutics



Jolien Reid
Head of Clinical
Operations - Translational
Science Hub
Sanofi



Julie Monk
Director of Clinical
Development
RAGE Biotech



Lauren Kelly
Senior Director, TTRA
Program
MTPConnect



Mark Bleackley
Chief Scientific Officer
Incannex Healthcare



Mark Buzza
Head of Research,
Innovation and Advocacy
Pancare Foundation



Meredith Edwards
Medical Director ANZ
Bristol Myers Squibb



Peter Surman
Chief Scientific Officer
Douglas Pharmaceuticals



Pragnya Sarathy
Sr. Manager, Regional Clinical
Study Team Lead, JAPAC
BeOne



Rashmi Amol Likhite
Director - Strategic Solutions &
Customer Success
Celoxis



Richard Foitzik
Director of Medicinal Chemistry
Inosi Therapeutics



Tam Nguyen
Deputy Director of Research
St Vincent's Hospital



Taneen Hisgrove
Global Program Director, Sr.
Director of Clinical Operations
Opthea

Conference Agenda

Day 0
2 SEPT 2025

17:00 PRE-EVENT MEET & GREET

Kick off the experience with some drinks while taking advantage of early bird registration and the chance to connect with fellow delegates. As everyone starts arriving, this is the perfect opportunity to network, catch up with familiar faces, and meet new ones. Raise a glass, spark conversations, exchange handshakes, share smiles, and embrace the camaraderie—whether reconnecting with old friends or forming new bonds in the industry, everyone is warmly welcomed here!



Day 1
3 SEPT 2025

8:30 Chairperson's Opening Remarks

Bradley Joblin, *Founder & Managing Director, Armstrong Clinical*

8:45

Find Your Circle: Transform with Tools that Spark Change

Start the day your way — choose the topic that speaks to you, share your thoughts, and meet others who share your passion.

Session Objective: Highlight the transformative power of modern tools in clinical development and spark fresh ideas on where the industry is heading.

9:40

Fireside Chat: From Molecule to Market – The Strategic Role of PPM in Pharma Growth

Douglas Pharmaceuticals, New Zealand's leading pharmaceutical company, has built its legacy on translating scientific innovation into commercial success. With decades of experience leading R&D projects, Peter Surman, Chief Scientific Officer, offers a unique perspective on the critical role of Project, Program, and Portfolio Management (PPM) in driving this journey.

Given the ever-evolving landscape of pharma innovation:

- Are companies maximizing the potential of their R&D investments, or are scientific breakthroughs getting lost in translation to market success?
- Can better alignment between scientific exploration and commercial strategy accelerate innovation without compromising scientific rigor?
- How can we redefine the role of PPM to bridge the gap between groundbreaking research and real-world patient impact?

Peter Surman, *Chief Scientific Officer, Douglas Pharmaceuticals*

10:10

Presentation: Driving Smarter Life Sciences Portfolios with AI and Advanced Analytics

With increasing complexity in R&D pipelines, regulatory pathways, and commercialization, life sciences companies need more than intuition to make strategic portfolio decisions. AI-driven analytics and predictive modeling are transforming how organizations prioritize projects, assess risks, and allocate resources—leading to smarter, faster, and more impactful decision-making.

In this session, we will explore how modern PPM tools leverage AI, machine learning, and real-time data analytics to optimize portfolio selection, scenario planning, and execution.

- From Data to Decisions – How AI and analytics help forecast portfolio performance and reduce uncertainty.
- Real-Time Portfolio Visibility – Leveraging interactive dashboards for faster insights into resource allocation and project risks.
- Predictive Scenario Planning – Using AI-powered models to assess best-case, worst-case, and risk-adjusted scenarios.
- Practical Case Study – How a leading pharma, biotech, or medtech company used advanced analytics to enhance portfolio efficiency and strategic alignment.

Rashmi Amol Likhite, *Director – Strategic Solutions & Customer Success, Celoxis*

10:40 Networking Coffee Break

11:10

Panel Discussion: Evolving Project & Portfolio Management in Life Sciences – Navigating Complexity, Innovation, and Execution

This high-level panel discussion will bring together portfolio leaders from pharma, biotech, medtech, and diagnostics to discuss the most pressing challenges and opportu-

nities in PPM today. Panelists will share real-world insights into how they are adapting their portfolio strategies to accelerate decision-making, leverage digital transformation, and enhance execution capabilities.

- Portfolio Prioritization & Decision-Making – Balancing innovation with efficiency and optimizing project selection.
- Resource Optimization in a Competitive Market – Streamlining resource planning and managing global teams.
- AI & Digital Transformation – Enhancing portfolio management with AI, real-time data, and predictive modeling.
- Agility & Adaptability – Shifting to agile approaches and overcoming regulatory and operational hurdles.
- The Future of PPM Leadership – Evolving from operations to strategy and defining next-gen leadership skills.

Jolien Reid, *Head of Clinical Operations - Translational Science Hub, Sanofi*

Gail Wiggins, *Director Project Management, CSL*

Jacqui Cumming, *Senior Director Clinical Development, Arovela Therapeutics*

11:40

Presentation: A Lean Biotech Model, Global Partnerships, and Clinical Success: The Art of Doing More with Less

- How a lean biotech team executed a global Phase 3 trial through strategic outsourcing and agile execution.
- Lessons from managing four international licensing partnerships across diverse regions.
- Actionable insights for achieving clinical and commercial milestones under tight constraints.

Anubhav Srivastava, *Associate Director, Drug Development, Dimerix Biosciences*

12:10

Panel Discussion: Agility in Life Sciences PPM – Balancing Flexibility and Compliance

As life sciences organizations accelerate innovation cycles, the ability to adapt and execute projects efficiently while maintaining regulatory compliance has become a critical challenge. Agile and hybrid methodologies are gaining traction, but how can they be effectively applied in pharma, biotech, medtech, and diagnostics, where strict regulatory frameworks exist?

This panel will bring together PPM leaders, regulatory experts, and industry innovators to discuss:

- How life sciences companies are adopting agile methodologies while ensuring compliance.
- When to use traditional vs. hybrid vs. fully agile approaches in project and portfolio management.

- The role of digital tools and automation in enabling faster decision-making and execution.
- Best practices for cross-functional collaboration and change management in shifting to agile frameworks.
- Lessons learned from companies successfully implementing agile PPM models.

Anne Woollett, *Clinical Trials Director, TrialHub, Alfred Health*

Anubhav Srivastava, *Associate Director, Drug Development, Dimerix Biosciences*

Emma Pinkerton, *Director, Global Site Management, Abbvie*

Tam Nguyen, *Deputy Director of Research, St Vincent's Hospital*

12:55 Networking Lunch

13:55

Panel Discussion: Accelerating Trial Delivery Through Integrated Ecosystem Project Management

- Lessons from managing complex global clinical programs with cross-functional and cross-regional teams.
- Leveraging tech-enabled platforms for operational efficiency (e.g., centralized data flows, site activation, patient recruitment).
- Real-world examples of adaptive planning and risk-based project oversight.

Ben Laverty, *Vice President, Clinical Operations, IQVIA*

Emma Pinkerton, *Director, Global Site Management, Abbvie*

Jolien Reid, *Head of Clinical Operations - Translational Science Hub, Sanofi*

14:25

Panel Discussion: Bridging the Gap – Effective Stakeholder Engagement for Portfolio Success

Collaboration between R&D, regulatory, finance, and commercial teams is critical for effective project and portfolio management (PPM) in life sciences. However, misalignment, siloed decision-making, and poor communication often lead to delays, inefficiencies, and missed opportunities.

This panel will bring together PPM leaders, cross-functional decision-makers, and industry experts to discuss:

- Breaking down silos – How to improve communication between R&D, commercial, and regulatory teams.
- Managing global teams – Best practices for aligning cross-functional, geographically dispersed stakeholders.
- Data storytelling for decision-makers – Presenting complex portfolio insights in a clear, strategic way.
- Fostering a culture of transparency and accountability in portfolio governance.

Conference Agenda

Day 1
3 SEPT 2025

- Lessons from successful stakeholder engagement strategies in pharma, biotech, medtech, and diagnostics.

Debra Bourke, *Interim Supporting Vice President, Medical Affairs Professionals of Australasia (MAPA)*

Jolanta Airey, *Chief Medical Officer, Cynata Therapeutics*

Mark Bleackley, *Chief Scientific Officer, Incannex Healthcare*

Pragnya Sarathy, *Sr. Manager, Regional Clinical Study Team Lead, JAPAC, BeOne*

15:10 Networking Coffee break

15:40

Roundtable Discussions

Roundtable Discussions provide an interactive, informal setting where participants can engage in open discussions, raise their own challenges, and benchmark strategies with their peers. Each roundtable will be facilitated by a discussion leader who ensures the conversation stays focused and that everyone can contribute. These sessions are designed to foster active problem-solving, share practical experiences, and encourage collaborative idea exchange. To make the most of this format, participants should come prepared with real-world examples from their work and be ready to actively engage with others.

Table A: Overcoming Bottlenecks in Portfolio Delivery

Key Discussion Points:

- Strategies for aligning project execution with portfolio strategy.
- Managing resource allocation conflicts & project delays.
- Best practices for cross-functional coordination in portfolio execution.

Richard Foitzik, *Director of Medicinal Chemistry, Inosi Therapeutics*

Table B: Leadership & Talent in PPM – Developing the Next Generation of Portfolio Leaders

Key Discussion Points:

- What skills will future PPM leaders need?
- How to attract, train, and retain top portfolio talent.
- The role of PPM in influencing corporate decision-making & strategy.

Gail Wiggins, *Director Project Management, CSL*

Table C: Portfolio Execution & Resource Management – Managing Trade-Offs in a Resource-Constrained Environment

Key Discussion Points:

- Strategies for balancing limited resources across competing projects.
- How to optimize PPM tools for efficient resource forecasting.

- Case studies on handling budget constraints while driving innovation.

Debra Bourke, *Interim Supporting Vice President, Medical Affairs Professionals of Australasia (MAPA)*

16:25 Chairperson's Closing Remarks

16:30 End of Day 1

8:30 Chairperson's Opening Remarks

Bradley Joblin, *Founder & Managing Director, Armstrong Clinical*

8:35

Cracking the Code: Communicating Through Crisis, Culture & Conflict

Dive into real project challenges, share your strategies, and learn how others navigate crisis, culture, and conflict.

Session Objective: Explore the soft skills and communication strategies needed to navigate difficult project situations, across cultures, personalities, and conflicting stakeholder views.

9:15

Fireside Chat: The Next-Gen PPM Leader – Architect of Innovation, Resilience, and Impact

- Navigating High-Stakes Clinical Programs: Leading innovative trials like sozinibercept through complex development phases, balancing ambition with operational discipline.
- Leading Through Crisis: Turning clinical setbacks and financial pressures into opportunities for growth, while maintaining team morale and investor confidence.
- Strategic Resilience: How adversity has sharpened decision-making and reinforced her ability to adapt and pivot in the face of uncertainty.
- Building High-Impact Teams: Cultivating resilience within cross-functional teams, fostering innovation while steering projects toward successful outcomes.
- Shaping the Future of Life Sciences Portfolios: Insights on how program leaders can drive long-term success by embracing innovation, managing risk, and leading with vision.

Taneen Hisgrove, *Global Program Director, Sr. Director of Clinical Operations, Opthea*

10:00

Fireside Chat: The PPM Renaissance: Redefining What It Means to Be a Project Leader Today

- Leading with emotional intelligence and personal resilience to navigate complex stakeholder ecosystems
- Blending traditional project management with agile and product-thinking approaches
- Building and empowering diverse, modern, cross-functional teams
- Driving strategic alignment and navigating organisational power dynamics

Divya Pasupuleti, *President, PMI Melbourne Chapter*

10:30 Networking Coffee Break

11:00

Panel Discussion: Change Management in PPM – Leading Teams Through Portfolio Transitions

Mergers, acquisitions, portfolio reprioritization, digital transformation, and regulatory shifts all impact how organizations manage their projects and portfolios. To ensure continuity, efficiency, and execution success, PPM leaders must navigate change effectively, gain stakeholder buy-in, and align teams to new priorities.

This panel will bring together portfolio leaders, change management experts, and transformation executives to discuss:

- Navigating portfolio reprioritization – Keeping execution on track while adjusting to new business goals.
- Managing organizational change – Ensuring smooth adoption of new tools, processes, and methodologies.
- Stakeholder alignment and communication – Strategies to drive buy-in and reduce resistance to change.
- Lessons from major transformations – Case studies on managing M&A integration, digital transformation, or R&D restructuring.
- The role of leadership in driving effective portfolio transitions.

Meredith Edwards, *Medical Director ANZ, Bristol Myers Squibb*

Mark Buzza, *Head of Research, Innovation and Advocacy, Pancare Foundation*

11:30

Fireside chat: Collective Impact -- Finding the Win-win by Bringing Industry and Not-for-profit's Together for the Greater Good

The Collective Impact framework was first published in 2011 and has since gained traction globally as a model to bring multiple stakeholders together across a complex system to drive positive impact.

Blending experience across medical research, pharma, biotech, health services and the not-for-profit sectors, Mark Buzza, Head of Research, Innovation and Advocacy at the Pancare Foundation, has been leading global Collective Impact initiatives for over a decade. Mark will share insights garnered from bringing disparate organisations together to align and collaborate around a common goal to improve patient outcomes.

Mark will discuss:

- The core principles of Collective Impact, including the role of the 'Backbone' organisation
- The critical role that PPM professionals play in the implementation of Collective Impact
- How MedTech organisations can broaden their collaborator network to not only meet organisational objectives, but also create positive change more broadly
- Relevant case studies of Collective Impact in healthcare that have led to positive impact

Mark Buzza, *Head of Research, Innovation and Advocacy, Pancare Foundation*

12:00 Networking Lunch

13:00

Panel Discussion: Leveraging External Partnerships and Collaborations in Portfolio Execution

In today's life sciences industry, no company innovates alone. Strategic partnerships with biotech firms, CROs, academia, and technology providers are essential for accelerating R&D, expanding capabilities, and improving portfolio execution. However, managing external collaborations comes with challenges—from alignment on goals and governance to intellectual property and resource integration.

- Identify and structure high-value partnerships to support pharmaceutical drug development and commercialization.
- Integrate external collaborations into portfolio planning and decision-making.
- Navigate governance hurdles, intellectual property sharing, and stakeholder alignment.
- Leverage technology to streamline communication, facilitate resource sharing, and improve project tracking.
- Manage post-deal alliances in cross-border partnerships to ensure alignment, integration, and long-term value.
- Achieve tangible results—such as faster R&D cycles and broader market opportunities—by optimizing cross-functional and cross-organizational collaboration.

Amanda Mao, Alliance Management Lead, **Keros Therapeutics**

Lauren Kelly, Senior Director, TTRA Program, **MTPConnect**

Fardaad Choksey, Associate Medical Director, Oncology – ANZ, **Astrazeneca**

Julie Monk, Director of Clinical Development, **RAGE Biotech**

13:45

Case Study: Fast-Tracking Innovation — Lessons from a COVID-19 Vaccine Tech Transfer

- Explore how a high-stakes vaccine tech transfer was executed under pandemic pressure
- Understand the critical role of risk-mitigated acceleration in tech transfers
- Unpack key lessons learned for future R&D and commercial tech transfers to help deliver new therapies to patients

Chris Quinn, Director, CMC Lead, Head of CMC Science, **CSL**

14:15

Panel Discussion: Technology Transfer in Life Sciences – From Innovation to Scalable Execution

Technology transfer plays a critical role in accelerating innovation from research labs to commercial success in pharma, biotech, medtech, and diagnostics. However, ensuring

a smooth transition from R&D to scalable production requires effective portfolio management, regulatory alignment, and cross-functional collaboration.

This panel will bring together industry leaders, tech transfer experts, and portfolio strategists to discuss:

- Best practices for technology transfer from academia, startups, and research institutions to commercial entities.
- Aligning technology transfer with portfolio strategy—ensuring new innovations fit business goals.
- Overcoming regulatory and operational challenges in transferring technology across global markets.
- Managing risk, IP, and governance to maximize the success of transferred technologies.
- Lessons learned from successful technology transfer projects in pharma, biotech, medtech, and diagnostics.

Chris Quinn, Director, CMC Lead, Head of CMC Science, **CSL**

Inus Janse van Rensburg, Senior Program Manager, **IDT Australia**

Annette Murphy, Head of Scientific Operations, **Incisive Technologies**

14:45 Networking Coffee break

15:15

Roundtable Discussions

Roundtable Discussions provide an interactive, informal setting where participants can engage in open discussions, raise their own challenges, and benchmark strategies with their peers. Each roundtable will be facilitated by a discussion leader who ensures the conversation stays focused and that everyone can contribute. These sessions are designed to foster active problem-solving, share practical experiences, and encourage collaborative idea exchange. To make the most of this format, participants should come prepared with real-world examples from their work and be ready to actively engage with others.

Table A: Navigating the Complex Journey from Bench to Bedside: Challenges and Innovations in Drug Development

- The Drug Development Pipeline: From Discovery to Clinical Trials
 - Explore the stages of drug development, emphasizing the transition from laboratory research to human clinical trials.
- Regulatory and Ethical Challenges in Drug Approval
 - Highlight the rigorous regulatory requirements and ethical considerations that must be navigated to bring a new drug to market including market access.
- Innovations and Future Directions in Drug Development
 - Examine the technological and methodological advances that are transforming drug development, such as AI, personalized medicine, and biomarker-driven approaches.
 - Discuss potential future trends and how they might address current challenges.

Fardaad Choksey, Associate Medical Director, Oncology – ANZ, **Astrazeneca**

Conference Agenda

Day 2
4 SEPT 2025

Table B: Scenario Planning in PPM – Preparing for Market, Regulatory, and R&D Uncertainty

Key Discussion Points:

- How to use scenario modeling to forecast risks & opportunities.
- Managing uncertainty in regulatory approvals & clinical trials.
- Case studies on how companies adapted their portfolios to sudden market changes.

Meredith Edwards, *Medical Director ANZ, Bristol Myers Squibb*

Table C: Building Resilient Clinical Teams – Insights from the Pharma Office to the Frontlines

- Explore examples where your team hit a roadblock, set back or unexpected delay, what lessons learned can you share around how you used this to build your team's resilience, so they were better placed to overcome these challenges the next time.
- Lessons learned to build critical thinking, robust planning, and risk management into your teams' everyday operations to build a foundation that underpins a resilient workforce
- Examine tools, systems, platforms, AI that can be used to best support your team ability to prioritize and pivot – key factors to a culture of resilience

Taneen Hisgrove, *Global Program Director, Sr. Director of Clinical Operations, Opthea*

○ **16:00 Chairperson's Closing Remarks**

○ **16:15 End of Conference**

2025 World Tour at a Glance



- 1** 22 – 23 January, BARCELONA
28th European Pharma and Biotech Project, Program and Portfolio Management Conference
- 2** 3 – 4 April, BASEL
29th European Biopharma Project Program and Portfolio Management Conference
- 3** 9 – 10 April, CHICAGO
2nd American Medical Device Project & Portfolio Management Conference
- 4** 15 – 16 April, PHILADELPHIA
24th American Pharma and Biotech Project, Program and Portfolio Management Conference
- 5** 14 – 15 May, LONDON
European Strategic Portfolio Management in Life Sciences
- 6** 3 – 4 June, COPENHAGEN
Biopharma PPM in Clinical Research and Development Summit Edition
- 7** 11 – 12 June, BERLIN
2nd European MedTech Summit 2025 – Medical Device Project & Portfolio Management Conference
- 8** 11 – 12 June, SAN FRANCISCO
25th American Pharma and Biotech Project, Program and Portfolio Management Conference
- 9** 5 – 6 August, SINGAPORE
Asian Pharma and Biotech Project, Program and Portfolio Management Conference
- 10** 3 – 4 September, MELBOURNE
Pharma and Biotech Project, Program and Portfolio Management Conference
- 11** 10 – 11 September, MUMBAI
3rd Strategic Project, Program and Portfolio Management Conference for Pharmaceuticals
- 12** 7 – 9 October, BASEL
30th European Pharma and Biotech Project, Program and Portfolio Management Conference
- 13** 15 – 17 October, BOSTON
26th American Pharma and Biotech Project, Program and Portfolio Management Conference
- 14** 19 – 20 November, LONDON
31st European Pharma and Biotech Project, Program and Portfolio Management Conference
- 15** 9 – 11 December, LAS VEGAS
2nd Annual American Projects & Portfolio Leadership Summit

Our Valued Partners, Past and Present



Contact us

Updated: 26 August, 2025
for the latest programme update, please
download agenda on conference website



Vice President PPM World Tour:



Liza Zhaivoronok

liza.zhaivoronok@whysummits.com

Speaking:



Jenn See

jenn.see@whysummits.com

Sponsoring:



Srihari Kamban

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Disclaimer:

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