



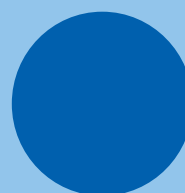
# ashm

Developing a sustainable HIV,  
viral hepatitis & sexual health workforce



ASHM acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we live and work.  
We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders peoples should be aware that this brochure may contain  
images or names of people who have since passed away.



## About us

ASHM is a professional, not-for-profit, membership-based organisation of health professionals in Australia, New Zealand and across the region.

ASHM proudly represents health professionals who work in the fields of HIV, viral hepatitis, other blood borne viruses (BBVs), sexual and reproductive health.

We support our members, sector partners and collaborators to generate knowledge and action in clinical management and research, education, policy and advocacy within Australasia and internationally.

## Our Vision

The virtual elimination of HIV, viral hepatitis, other BBVs and the significant reduction of sexually transmissible infections.

## Our Mission

Our mission is to provide leadership within the sector via:

- **Collaboration**
- **Facilitation**
- **Direct action**
- **Work force capacity building**

Our work is evidence based, practice centred, outcome focused and we prioritise monitoring and evaluation in everything we do.

Working with a dedicated membership, high-calibre staff and our commitment to partnerships assures effectiveness in achieving our mission.



## Our Values and Approach

ASHM is committed to the principles of the Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion and Jakarta Declaration on Leading Health Promotion into the 21st Century, as well as the highest standards of ethical conduct as practiced by the medical, scientific and health care professions. ASHM supports the aspirations and goals of the Closing the Gap Statement of Intent for Health Equity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

ASHM also affirms that Maori as tangata whenua hold a unique place in New Zealand, and that the Treaty of Waitangi is the nation's founding document, and as an organization commits to uphold the key Treaty principles for involving Maori including partnership, participation and protection.

ASHM is a signatory to the Code of Conduct for Australian aid and development agencies, which is administered by the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID). ASHM is committed to full adherence to the ACFID Code of Conduct.

As an ACFID Code of Conduct signatory, ASHM complies with policies that include child protection, non-development activity and conflict of interest.



# ASHM National Policy and Education Division

Our products and services have been sought after by governments, members, healthcare workers and affected people for over 30 years.

With a strong focus on the prevention and management of BBVs and STIs as well as sexual and reproductive health, we support a dedicated workforce through:

- **Education (online and in person)**
- **Professional registration requirements (CPD)**
- **Clinical Support**
- **Guidelines and resources**
- **Policy development**
- **Advocacy**
- **Scholarship program for local and international conferences**
- **ASHM annual Australasian HIV & AIDS and Sexual Health Conferences**
- **Australasian Viral Hepatitis and Viral Elimination Conferences**

ASHM has shaped the five new tri-annual national strategies for BBVs and STIs, as well as focusing on addressing the stigma and discrimination, which remain an unacceptable barrier in health service delivery.

Other areas of focus include the need to reach and engage with culturally and linguistically diverse communities, prison settings, HIV prevention for those with less healthcare access, a better coordinated response to hepatitis B and the elimination of hepatitis C.

Our attention is also focused on the challenges faced with HTLV-1, as well as HIV, viral hepatitis and syphilis in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

In consultation with our members, ASHM provides leadership and supports the efforts of others in policy development and advocacy to improve accessibility to prevention, care and treatment for people living with and at risk of BBVs and STIs and to support the health workforce.



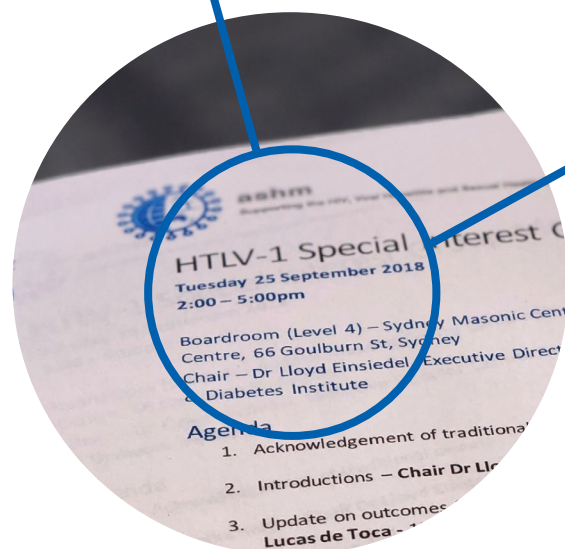
**ashm**

Australasian Society for HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Sexual Health Medicine

A guide for clinicians to discuss

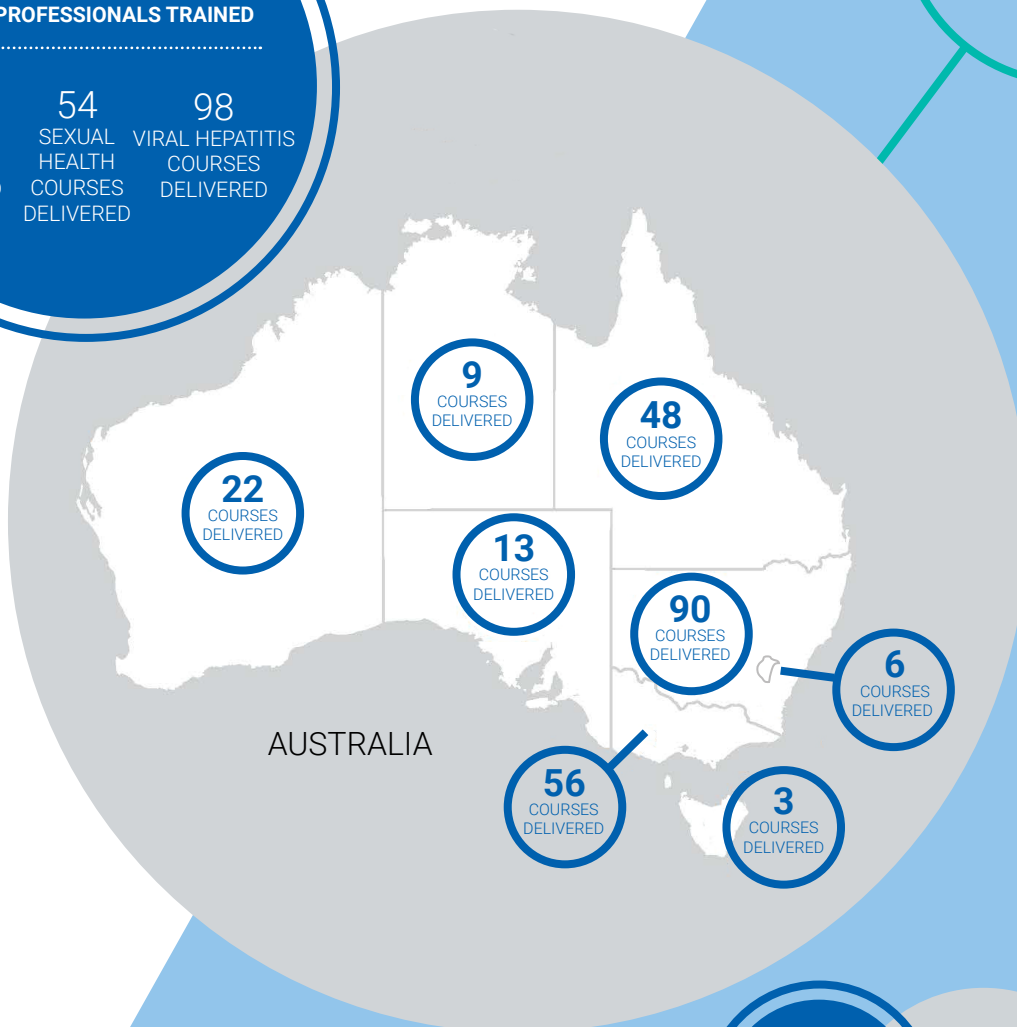
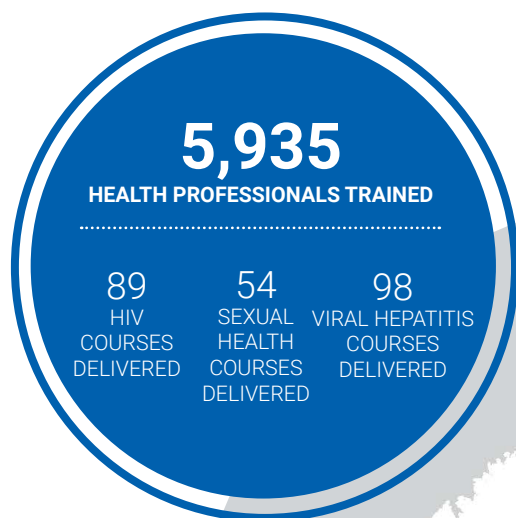
**U=U**

UNDETECTABLE = UNTRANSMITTABLE





# ASHM National Policy and Education Achievements 2019



**NEW ZEALAND**

Our products and services have been sought after by governments, members, healthcare workers and affected people for over 30 years.

# ASHM International Division

ASHM international is global in its outlook; with a focus on the Asia and Pacific Region.

Our approach is collaborative working with partners:

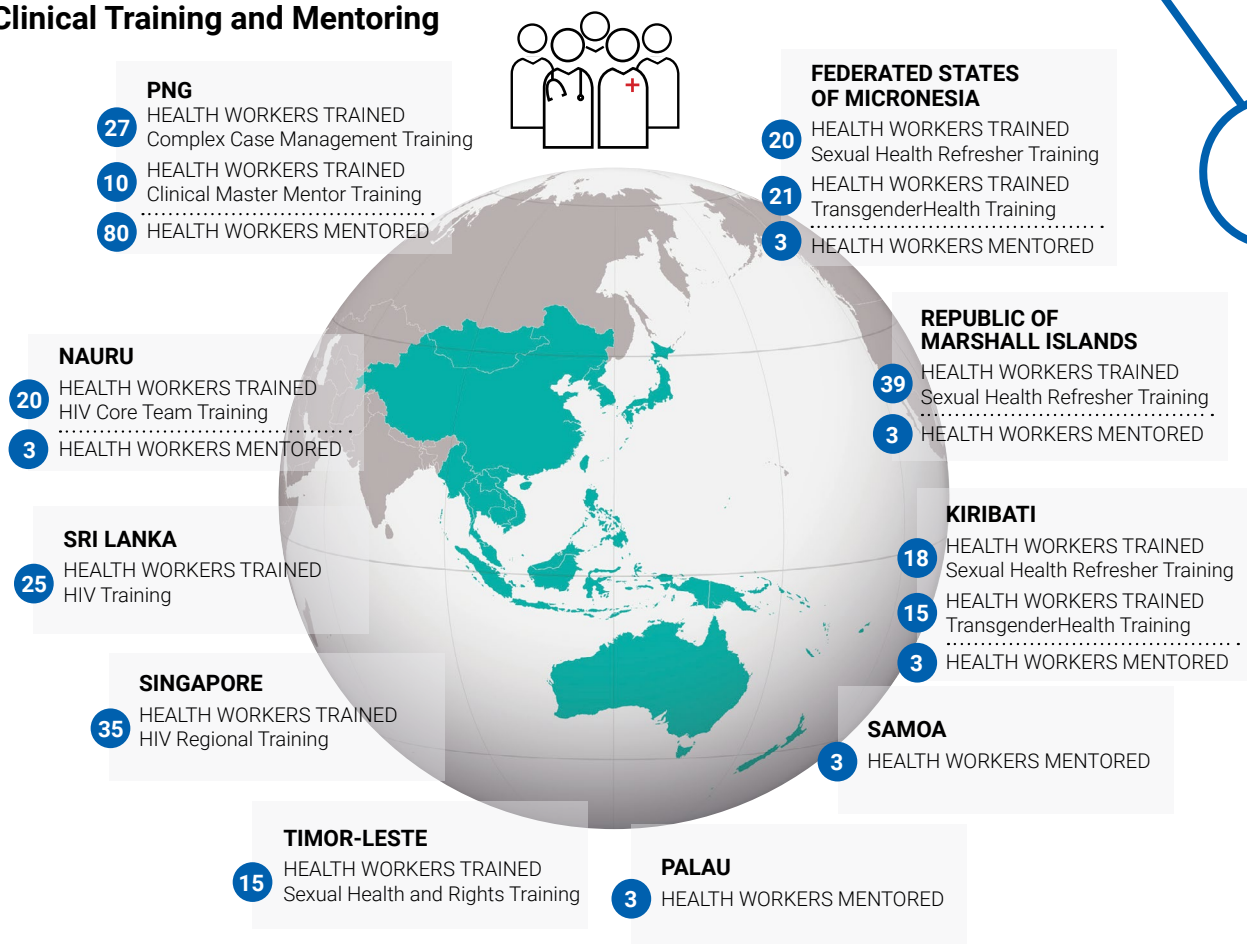


In order to create a more confident and competent clinical workforce within the region, our programs include:

- Clinical training and mentoring
- Policy and guidelines
- Knowledge exchange
- Monitoring, evaluation, research and learning

## ASHM International Achievements 2019

### 1. Clinical Training and Mentoring



### 2. Policy and Guidelines

**FIJI, KIRIBATI, VANUATU AND SOLOMON ISLANDS**

Hepatitis B Guidelines and Action Plans revised

### 3. Linkages and Knowledge Exchange

**HONG KONG**

APAC Satellite Symposium HIV and Ageing Regional

**AUSTRALIA (SYDNEY)**

Australasian HIV and AIDS Conference

### 4. Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Learning

**PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

M&E Training - 21 Health Workers Trained

M&E Capacity Building and Mentoring

**PNG AND THE PACIFIC ISLANDS**

ASHM International Clinical Mentoring Model Evaluation

**SOLOMON ISLANDS AND VANUATU**

Hepatitis B Country Assessments



The ASHM Regional Network represents over 45 national professional societies, associations and organisations supporting the HIV, viral hepatitis and sexual health workforce across Asia and the Pacific.





## ASHM Conferences, Sponsorship and Events

ASHM continues to support the broader health and scientific sectors by providing award-winning conferences and event management services.

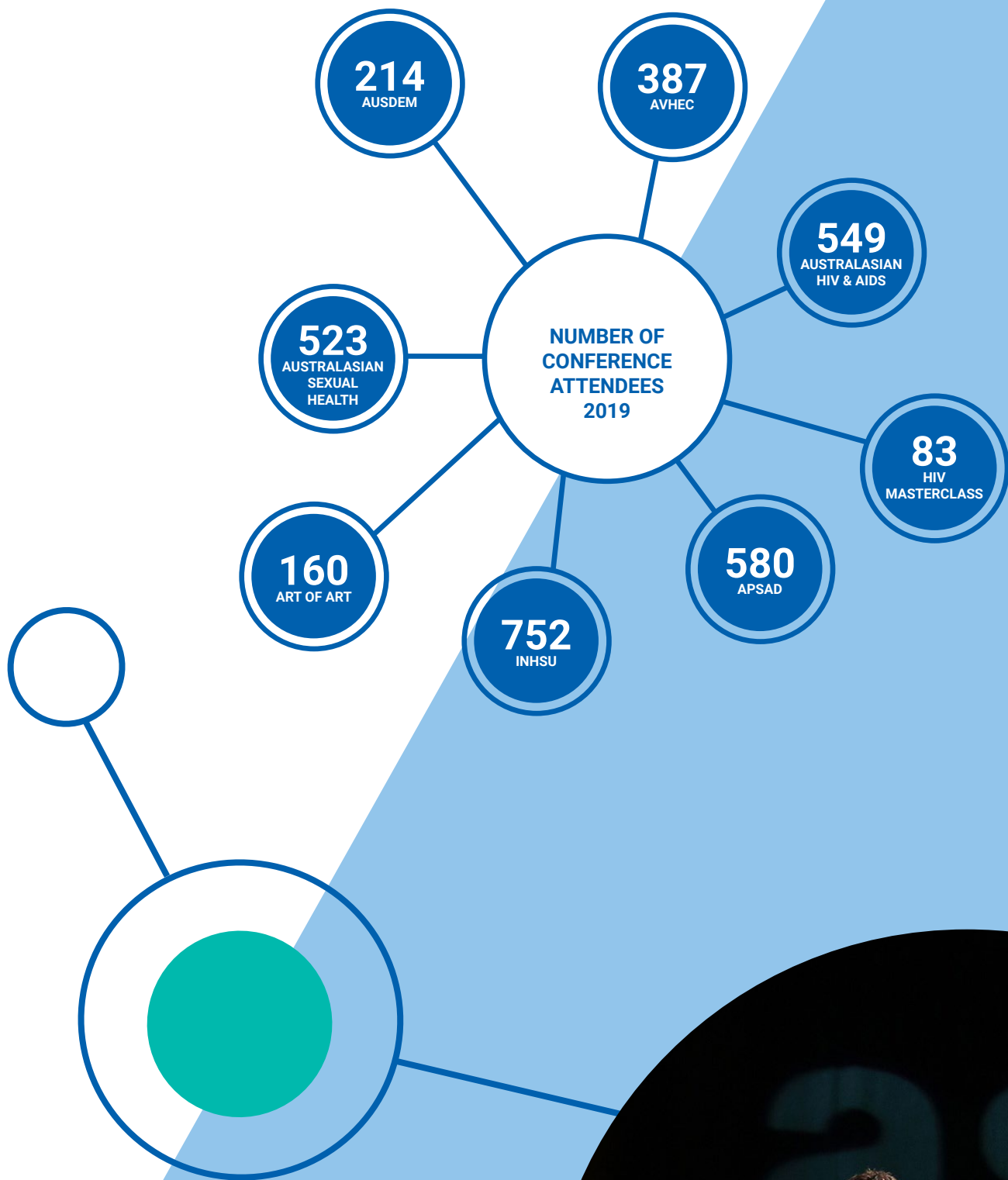
Since 2002 we have been working with organisations and government departments in the areas of research, science, medicine, health policy and education.

Our annual flagship event the “Australasian HIV&AIDS and Sexual Health Conference” is a major component of ASHM’s contribution to education and information

sharing for health professionals working in the HIV, viral hepatitis and related diseases sector.

The Australasian HIV&AIDS Conference was first launched by ASHM in 1989 in response to the emerging area of clinical care for HIV. It began as a small meeting of medical practitioners and has now grown into the region’s premier medical/scientific conference in the HIV and related diseases sector, attracting speakers and delegates from around the world.





# Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health

ASHM supports the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health care sector through workforce development, education and training, resources, sector conferences and policy advocacy.

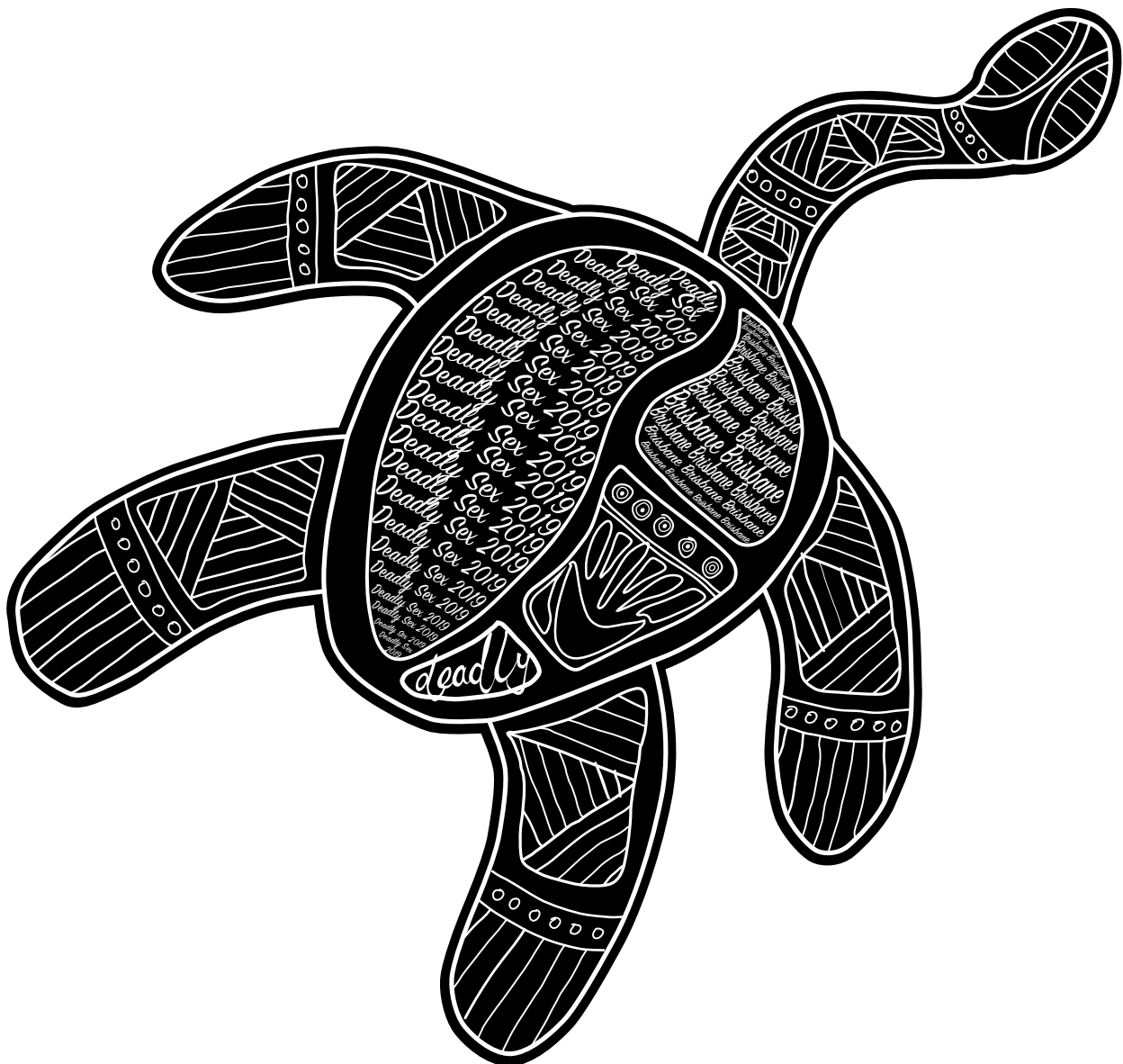
We have recently engaged in specific Indigenous health issues with specialised resources, working groups and advocacy statements. These include [allgood.org.au](http://allgood.org.au), the Syphilis Outbreak Training Website, the HTLV-1 Working Group and the Noongar Boodja Statement on closing the gap on STI's and BBVs among Indigenous peoples of Australasia.

As an organisation we support the aspirations and goals of the Closing the Gap Statement of Intent Health Equity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and further recognise that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are disproportionately affected by BBVs and STIs.

ASHM recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as a priority population across HIV, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections.

In order to provide culturally appropriate, sustainable and effective support to the HIV, viral hepatitis and sexual health workforce, ASHM is committed to working in partnership with, and under the guidance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to provide sustainable and effective support to the BBV and STI workforce.

Our education material, training and resources are developed in full consultation with clinical advisers who have extensive experience in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health.



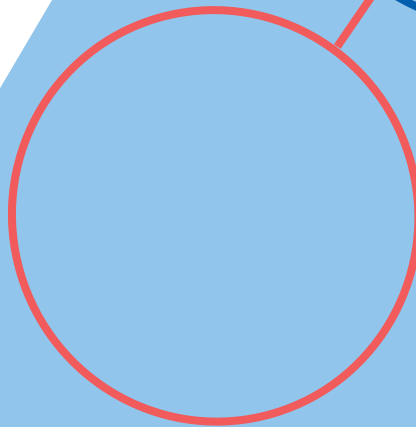
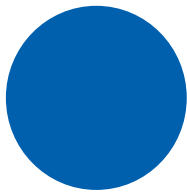
Artist - John Murray  
2018 - Deadly Sex Congress

## Key Resources

### Syphilis Outbreak Training Website

The Syphilis Outbreak training site is targeted to health professionals working in areas affected by the ongoing outbreak of infectious syphilis among young Aboriginal People in regions of QLD, NT, WA and SA.

The training is suitable for doctors, nurses, midwives, Aboriginal health practitioners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workers. The training can be accessed at no cost via [ashm.org.au](http://ashm.org.au).



### [allgood.org.au](http://allgood.org.au)

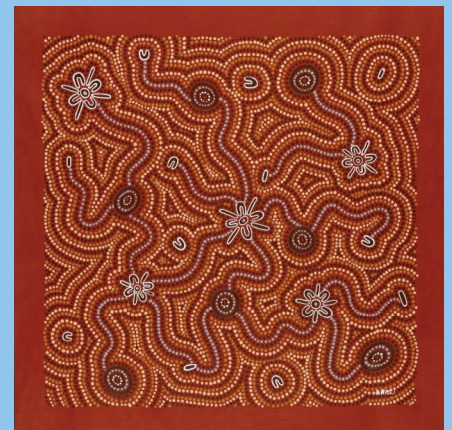
[allgood.org.au](http://allgood.org.au) is ASHM's multi-language health information website aiming to increase the awareness of and uptake of testing and treatment for HIV, viral hepatitis and STIs among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and priority culturally and linguistically diverse populations.

### Djiyardi – Can We Talk?

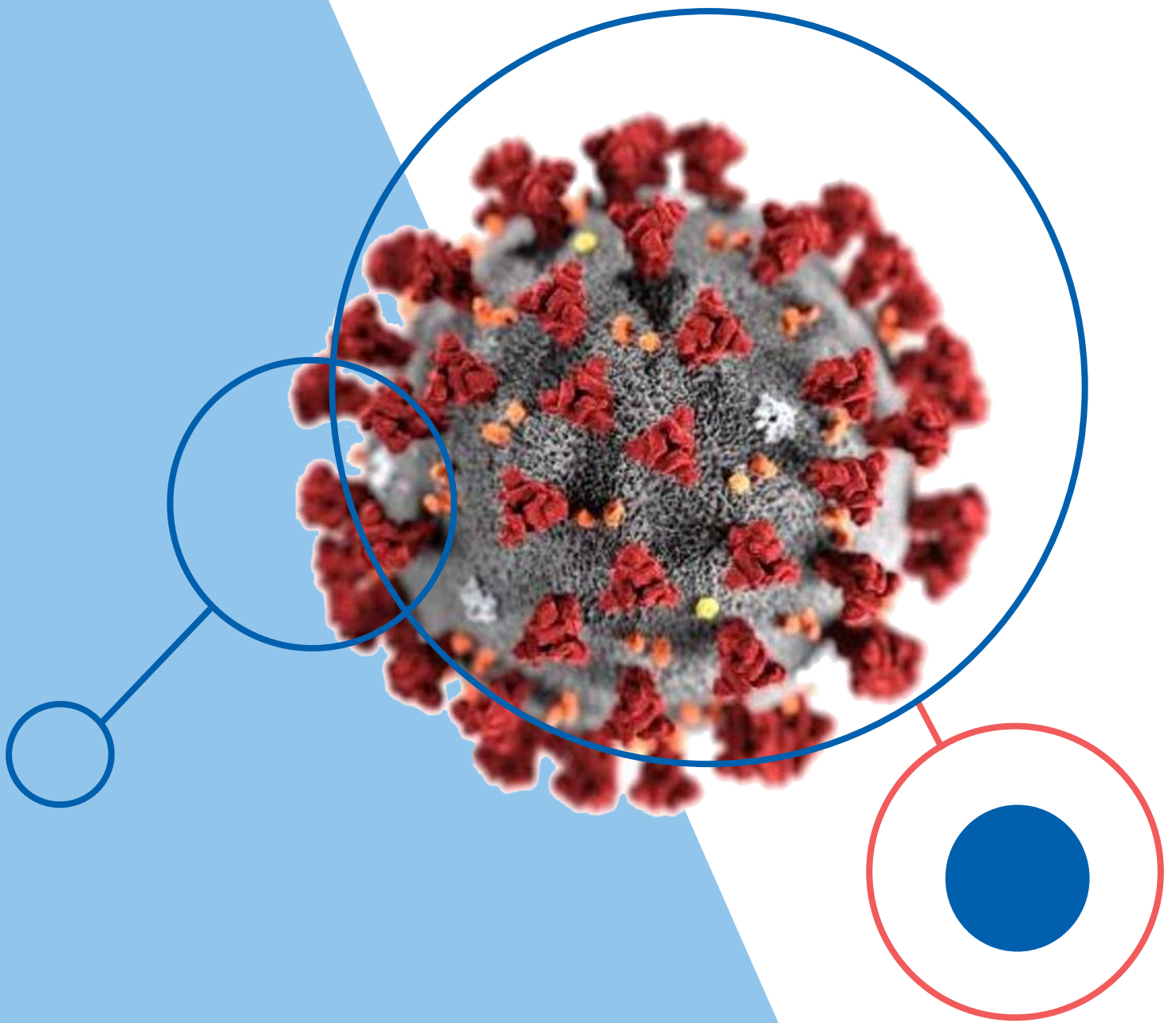
This comprehensive booklet aims to promote positive sexual health among young people and assist health workers to give meaningful, accessible and culturally appropriate sexual health advice care.

It is particularly useful for new Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workers, or workers new to sexual health. It was developed in partnership with the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO).

*Artist - Donna Rioli*  
*2011 Djiyardi – Can we talk?*







The novel coronavirus (SARS-COV-2), which leads to the COVID-19 illness, poses unprecedented and serious challenges to our sector and the delivery of health services to people affected by BBVs and STIs.

These challenges are likely to affect service provision across the treatment, care, support and prevention continuum.

## National Taskforce and Regional Advisory Group on BBVs, Sexual Health and COVID-19

The ASHM National Taskforce and Regional Advisory Group on BBVs, sexual health and COVID-19 were established on 20 March 2020 and comprises of 160 members who are clinical specialists, general practitioners, nurses, scientist researchers and community representatives. Providing an opportunity for the Australasian and regional sectors to discuss the scientific, clinical, BBV and sexual health service delivery and social implications of COVID-19.

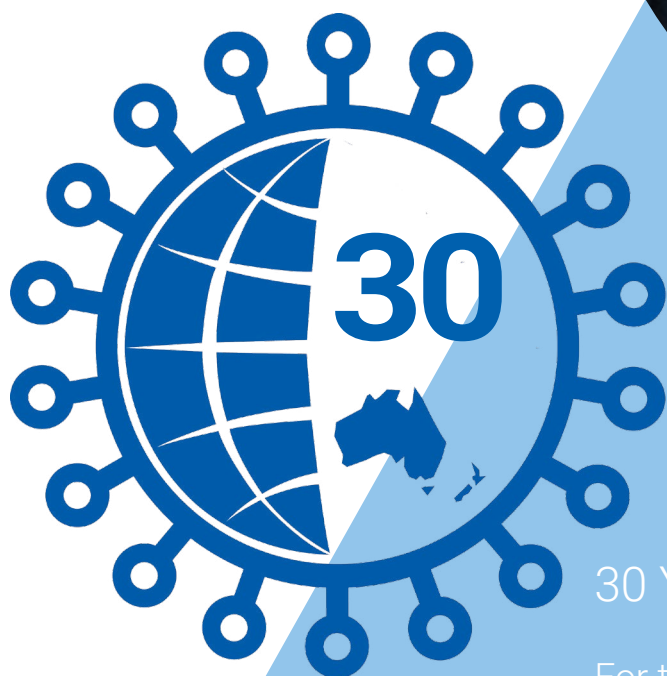
The Taskforce and Regional Advisory Group:

- Investigates temporary and novel adaptations of standard guidance and innovative responses to emerging clinical issues raised by coronavirus infection and COVID-19 illness;
- Provides high level guidance on preventing COVID-19 transmissions within different healthcare settings in close coordination with responsible statutory bodies;
- Examines the impact of epidemic containment measures such as social distancing, quarantine and self-isolation on service delivery and the lived experience of those most affected by BBVs and sexual health concerns;
- Promotes evidence-based information sharing and innovation for both emerging issues and the challenges posed by COVID-19 in BBV and sexual health routine prevention, treatment, care and support;
- Disseminate guidance to key BBV and sexual health stakeholder groups via e-alerts, media updates, webinars and other communications.

*"Even at the best of times, people affected by HIV and viral hepatitis face multiple barriers to accessing basic healthcare and this is precisely the time to support our workforce and their patient populations during the COVID-19 pandemic"*

ASHM CEO – Alexis Apostolellis





## 30 Years of ASHM Membership

For the last 30 years membership has been an important component for our organisation. It is at the core of our identity, our work and our organisational structure.

Our strong and diverse membership base not only provides us with vital financial support to continue our work, but it allows us to be a critical voice and advocate for the HIV, viral hepatitis and sexual health sector.

*"Our members are the people who make ASHM what it is: a leader in the Australasian response to HIV, viral hepatitis and STIs and the voice of thousands of health workers at the forefront of this vital work"*

A/Prof Dr Mark Bloch - ASHM President





# Membership Categories

Becoming a member of ASHM is a great way to stay informed. Your ASHM membership will connect you with an extensive community of professionals for information sharing and networking.

Your support is integral to our work on policy and strategic engagement, on facilitating access to and the uptake of resources and on implementing guidelines and training.

With a membership base of over 3,500 committed healthcare professionals located within Australia, New Zealand and across the region, we aim to provide you with practical and valuable opportunities to help contribute to your important work within the sector.

## Individual Memberships

We have a range of individual membership options available to you – depending on your occupation, location and employment status.

### Ordinary Membership - \$235

For medical professionals and other individuals located within Australia and New Zealand - with a professional interest in the HIV, viral hepatitis and the sexual and reproductive health sector.

### Nursing Ordinary Membership - \$110

For nursing and midwifery professionals located within Australia and New Zealand - with a professional interest in the HIV, viral hepatitis and the sexual and reproductive health sector.

### Pharmacists Ordinary Membership - \$110

For community, retail and hospital pharmacists located within Australia and New Zealand - with a professional interest in the HIV, viral hepatitis and the sexual and reproductive health sector.

### Student Membership – Free of charge

For full-time students located within Australia and New Zealand, who are currently undertaking an area of study relevant to HIV, viral hepatitis, sexual and reproductive health or any other related conditions, who wish to become a member. You will need to provide your supervisors contact details upon registration.

### Retired Membership - \$66

For healthcare professionals with an ongoing interest in the HIV, viral hepatitis, sexual and reproductive health sector, who have previously been an ASHM Ordinary Member for five or more consecutive years and are retired from full time employment.

### Individual Sustaining Membership - \$235

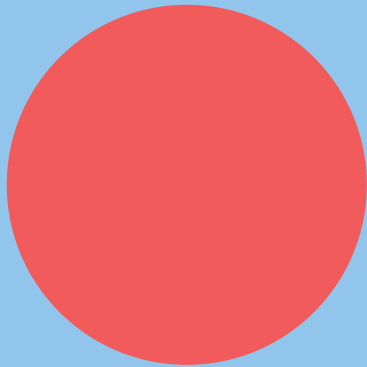
A non-voting membership category for individuals we are currently employed by the pharmaceutical industry, individuals residing outside of Australia and New Zealand or those individuals who do not wish to influence policy.

### International Members from low to middle income countries - \$110

For medical professionals, including community organisations and other individuals from low to middle income countries with a professional interest in HIV, viral hepatitis, sexual and reproductive sexual health sector.

### Affiliate Membership via the Organisational Sustaining Membership Program (OSM) – Free of charge

For medical and other professionals who are currently employed or connected via membership with one of our organisational partners. Affiliate membership is only offered through the ASHM Organisational Sustaining Membership Program.



## Organisational Sustaining Membership

Our collaboration with 55+ strategic Organisational Members helps us to be leaders within the sector, through advocacy, policy direction, direct action and workforce capacity building.

The ASHM Organisational Sustaining Membership Program strives to be inclusive, drawing together a range of professions supporting people living with HIV, viral hepatitis, sexual and reproductive health issues and related diseases.

Whilst also maintaining a core group of committed health professionals engaged in the governance of ASHM and influencing patient care.

- ASHM Organisational Sustaining Membership fee is tailored to the size, nature and scope of an organisation.
- Organisational Sustaining Members have access to our affiliate program, which extends most of the benefits of ASHM membership to employees and/or members at no extra individual cost.
- Organisational Sustaining Members also enjoy priority placement of any news or information they would like share within the monthly ASHM eNews, as well as free job placement advertisements in our careers bulletin (waiving the \$200 fee). Both electronic publications are sent to over 5,000 individual subscribers.

# Organisational Sustaining Members





## Honorary Membership

An individual person may be invited to be an Honorary Life Member by the Board in recognition of distinguished achievement and support of the ASHM vision over several years.

Eligibility for Honorary Life Membership is determined at the Boards discretion.

The Board announces new Honorary Life Members each year at the ASHM Annual General Meeting.

*"Honorary life membership is the highest honour of ASHM awards and it is significant that our highest honour is a form of membership"*

A/Prof Dr Mark Bloch - ASHM President



## ASHM Honorary Life Members

John Ziegler  
(Foundation Member)

Alex Wodak  
(Foundation Member)

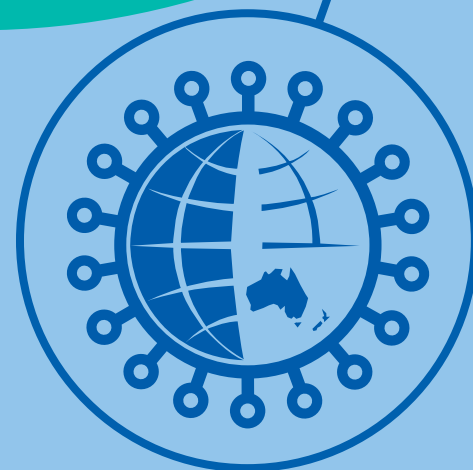
Joseph McCormack  
(Foundation Member)

Elizabeth Dax

David Bradford

Robert Batey

Martyn French



Beatie Pearlman

Levinia Crooks

David Cooper

Jennifer Hoy

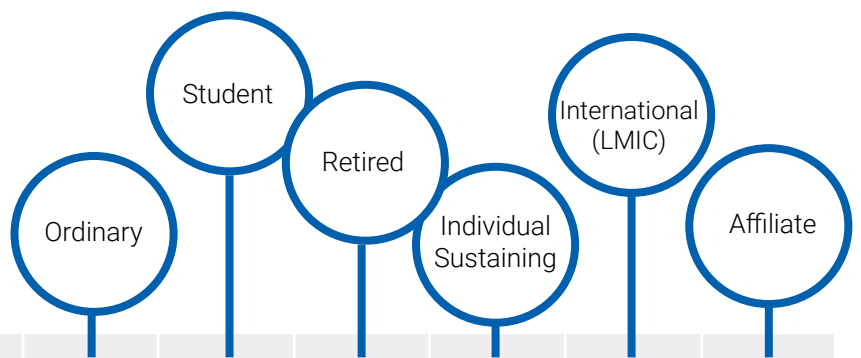
Catherine O'Connor

Susan Mason

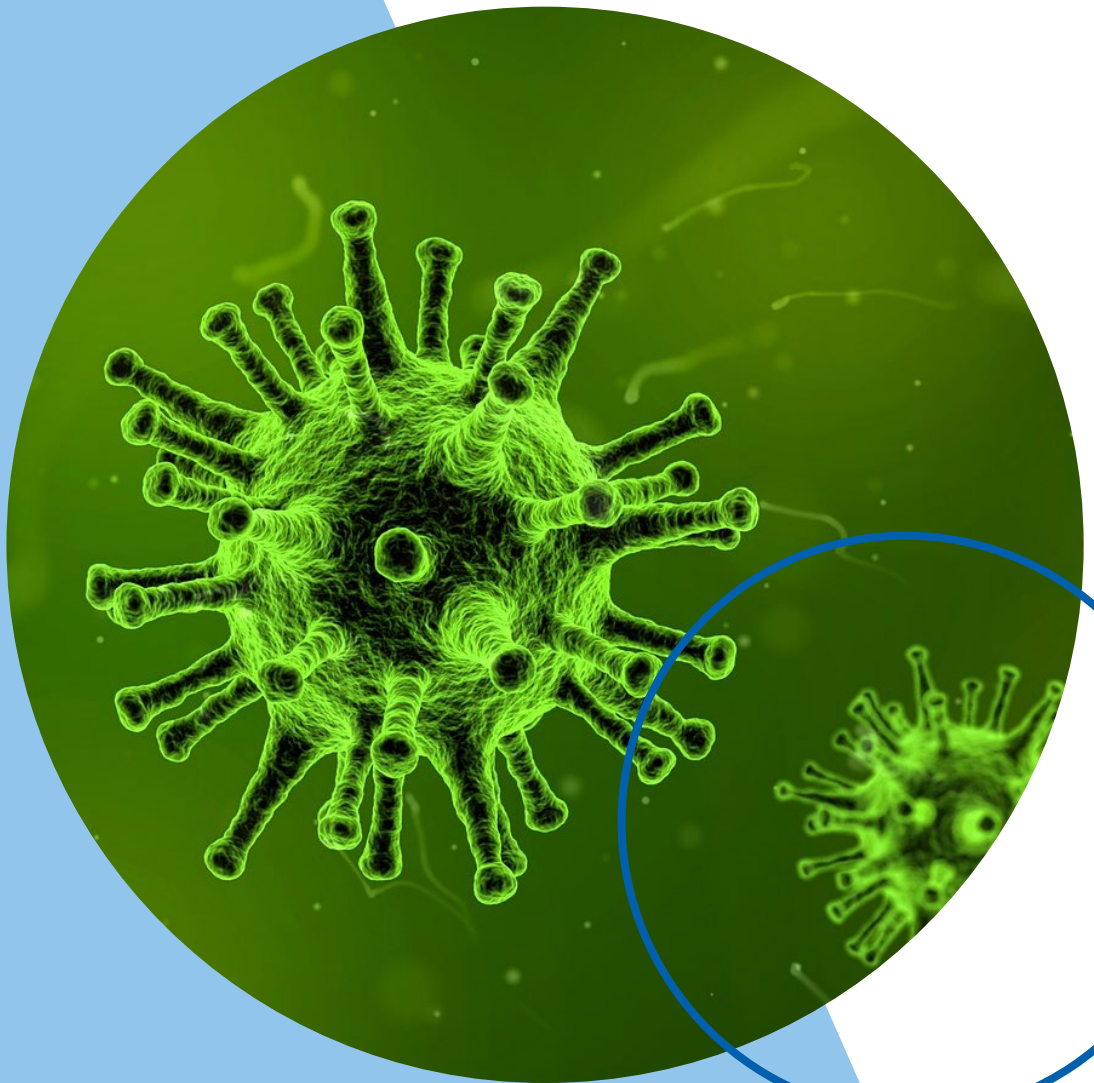
# Membership Benefits

By becoming an ASHM member you can help ensure the future of our services.

We aim to provide our members with practical and valuable opportunities.



	Ordinary	Student	Retired	Individual Sustaining	International (LMIC)	Affiliate
Generous member-only discounts to the Australasian HIV/AIDS and Sexual Health Conferences	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Prioritised members-only access to our scholarship program for both National and International Events and Conferences	✓			✓	✓	✓
Vote at the Annual General Meeting on ASHM constitutional changes.	✓		✓			
Stand for election as an ASHM board member	✓		✓			
Training and seminars contributing to your professional development and continuing professional registration requirements (CPD points)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Professional teaching and writing opportunities within Australasia and the region	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Unlimited access to ASHM resources and teaching materials	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Latest sector information via our monthly e-News and tailored email alerts	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Customised job opportunity alerts and free job advertisement posting within our highly subscribed career bulletin	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Exclusive networking opportunities via our member-only events and dinners held throughout Australia and New Zealand	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Increased visibility within the sector, by including your logo on ASHM communication channels						✓
A 15% discount off the fully flexible rate to the TFE Hotel Network, including The Adina, Vibe Hotels, Travel Lodge, Rendezvous and TFE Hotels Collection	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓



## Entering our Fourth Decade

Much has changed since ASHM began in 1989 as a small group of specialists. New technology and treatments have transformed the face of our sector, and indeed ASHM itself, but our values and vision remain the same.

## Our History

ASHM has been privileged to expand our remit more recently to include viral hepatitis, HTLV-1 and working beyond the borders of Australia and New Zealand. We look forward to further supporting our regional workforce across Asia and the Pacific, and collaborating to share lessons, strategies and experiences.

We are extremely proud to be entering our fourth decade working to support the health workforces. The 30-year milestone encourages us to reflect on the dramatic changes in medicine, treatment and prevention; in recognising the strength and resilience of our peers, affected communities, and the many other organisations to whom we've built long term partnerships. Our achievements wouldn't be possible without this generosity of time, input and expertise.

## Origins

ASHM originated from a group of concerned clinicians, returning to Australia from the Stockholm AIDS Conference in 1988. On that flight, they realised that fellow clinicians would need much more professional development if they were to see any success in responding to the devastating impact of AIDS.

The result was an auspiced organisation aiming to support health professionals to learn more about the emerging disease, receive clinical mentoring and exchange best practices, The Australian Society of AIDS Physicians.

The organisation helped develop the first national guidelines for HIV&AIDS related treatment, care and management, as well as contributing heavily to the first National Strategy in Australia, released in 1989.

After advocacy from New Zealand based clinicians, it was incorporated in 1990 to become the 'Australasian Society for HIV Medicine' – what we know now as ASHM.

## History of ASHM Membership

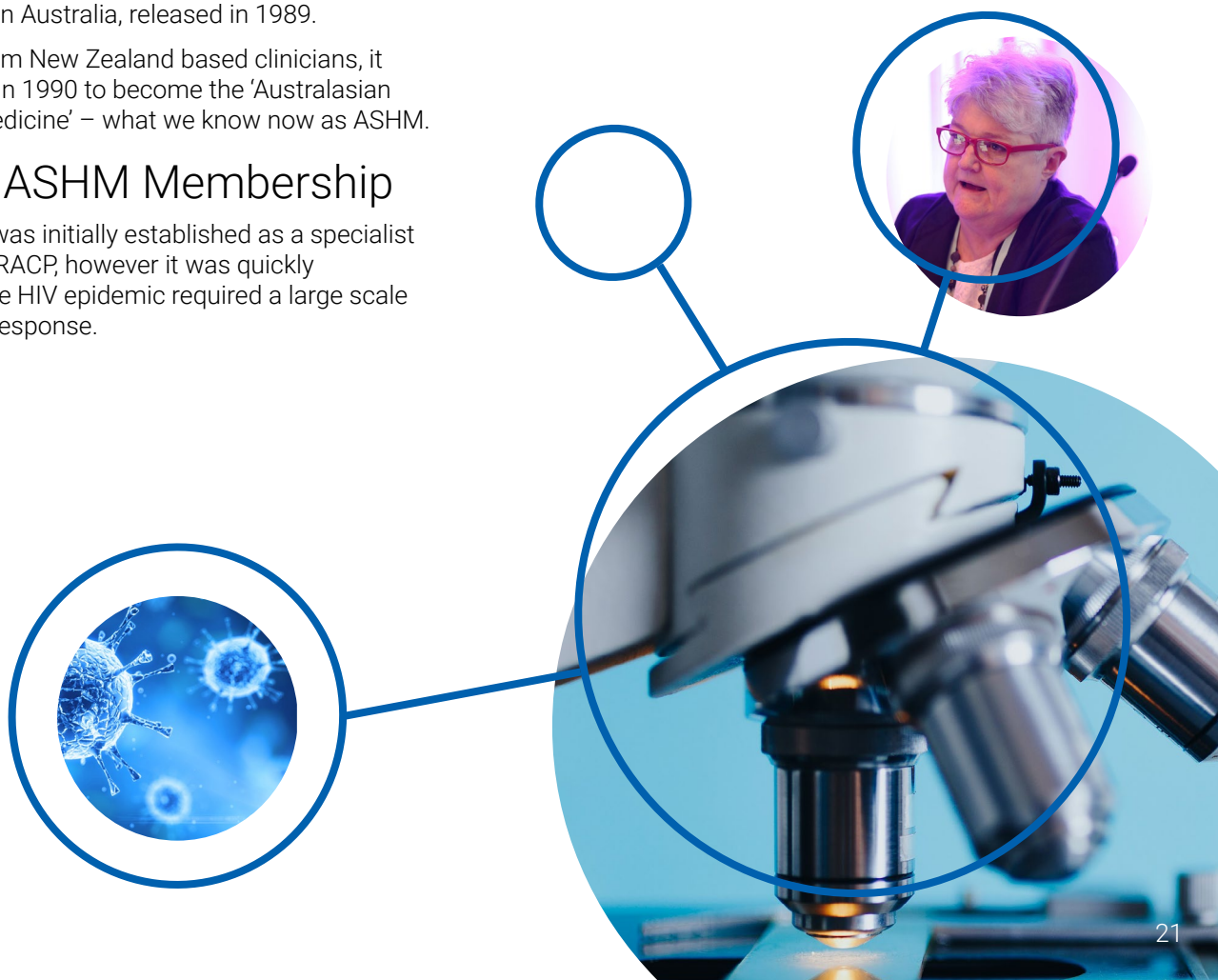
The organisation was initially established as a specialist society under the RACP, however it was quickly recognised that the HIV epidemic required a large scale and cross-sector response.

While initially restricted to only consultant physicians, ASHM membership quickly expanded to general practitioners and subsequently nurses. Since 2006, ASHM membership recognised that we require a wide spectrum of skills and disciplines to prevent, manage and treat HIV, viral hepatitis and STIs.

Our membership now includes researchers, epidemiologists, laboratory scientists, social workers, psychologists and other allied health professionals, including hospital and community pharmacists. Their insights, dedication and overall contribution to the sector are invaluable.

## Adjunct Associate Professor, Levinia Crooks AM (1960-2017)

It is impossible to reminisce about the history of ASHM, without acknowledging the significant contribution and untiring dedication of our former Chief Executive Officer Levinia Crooks. As CEO from November 1999 until September 2017, Levinia was regarded as a leading advocate in the Australasian and international BBV and STI field. Levinia served for over 30 years as a champion for people's rights in the health sector. She began her work in the 1980s supporting her friends and colleagues impacted by HIV/AIDS, conducting social research to inform the development of counselling and support services for people living with HIV. She also served as President of the AIDS Council of NSW and Bobby Goldsmith Foundation, as well as on the Board of the Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations.





# Board of Directors

ASHM prides itself on a diverse board with representatives from various states and territories, as well as New Zealand.



**President**  
A/Prof Mark Bloch (NSW),  
MBBS; Dip FP; Dip Med  
Hyp; M Med



**Prof Charles Gilks (QLD)**  
PhD, MSc, MBBS w/  
Hons, MA, BA



**Dr David Iser (VIC)**  
MBBS (Hons); BMedSc;  
FRACP; PhD



**Vice President**  
Penny Kenchington (QLD)  
MNsg (NP); Grad Dip PH; Grad Dip  
Hth Man; Grad Cert Forensic Nsg;  
Dip app Sc (Nsg)



**Vice President**  
Clinical A/Prof Louise Owen (TAS)  
MBBS (Hons); FRACGP;  
FACHSHM



**Dr Elizabeth Crock (VIC)**  
RN; ACRN (USA); BSc;  
PhD; Grad Dip Ed; MPH



**President Elect**  
Dr Nicholas Medland (VIC)  
MBBS; BA Hons; PhD;  
FACHSHM



**Dr Sam Elliott (SA)**  
MBBS; Master of Public  
Health and Tropical Medicine;  
FRACGP



**Dr James McMahon (VIC)**  
PhD; Master of Public Health;  
Fellow RACP; MBBS



**A/Prof Gail Matthews (NSW)**  
MBChB; MRCP (UK);  
FRACP; PhD



**Dr Janine Trevillyan (VIC)**  
MBBS, Fellowship RACP,  
currently enrolled in PhD



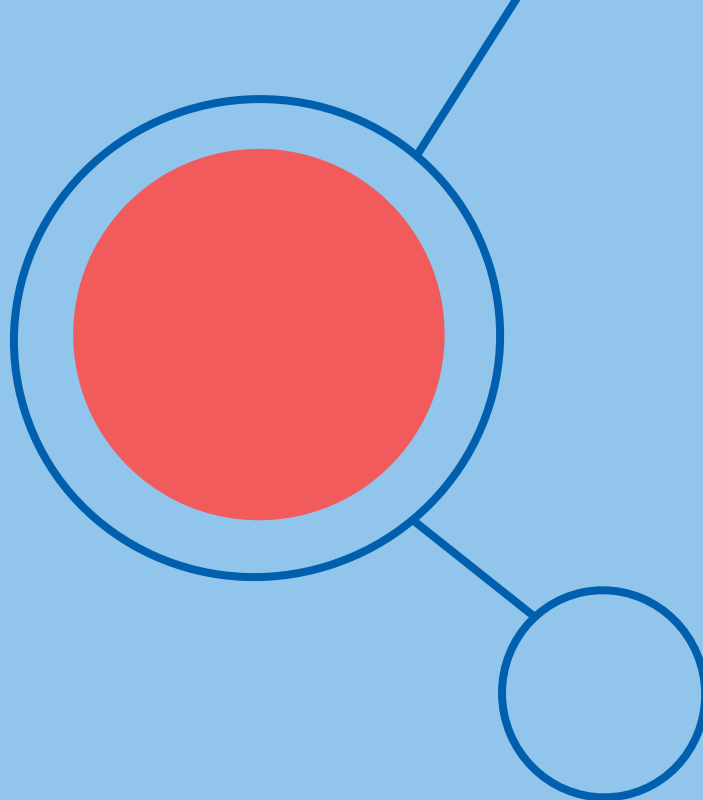
**Dr Jason Ong (VIC)**  
PhD, MMed (Hons),  
MBBS, FACHSHM,  
FRACGP



**Dr Belinda Wozencroft (WA)**  
MB; BS



**Dr Joan Ingram (NZ)**  
MB ChB 1985 Auckland; FRACP  
1993; DTM & H (London) 1990



To find out more about how to become  
a member of ASHM, please visit  
[www.ashm.org.au/about/membership/](http://www.ashm.org.au/about/membership/)



**ashm**

Developing a sustainable HIV,  
viral hepatitis & sexual health workforce