



Australian Centre for  
HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research

# The Australian Centre for HIV & Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH4) 19<sup>th</sup> Scientific Conference

## 2025 GENERAL INFORMATION

We are excited to be holding the **ACH4 19<sup>th</sup> biennial Scientific Conference** at The Coogee Bay Hotel in Sydney on **Wednesday 25 – Friday 27 June 2025...!**

The Conference will be conducted in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere, encouraging productive discussions, which will continue to be delivered in a hybrid event format, combining an in-person conference experience with a virtual component. Presentations will be mainly from post-docs, PhD students and research staff.

Combined and concurrent sessions will be held with papers being presented on a thematic basis. The combined sessions will include presentations from international and national guests and papers of interest to all hepatitis and HIV researchers.

If you are unable to join in Sydney, please join us virtually. All sessions will be live-streamed, and we encourage interactive Q&A discussions and virtual engagement.

### Key Dates 2025

Registration opens – Now Open

**Registration closes: Friday 25 April at 5:00pm AEST**

Abstract submission – Now Open

**Abstract submission closes: Tuesday 20 May at 5:00pm AEST**

#### **ACH4 Administration Officer**

Jo Reidy / [joanne.reidy@wimr.org.au](mailto:joanne.reidy@wimr.org.au) / 0424 754 557

#### **ACH4 Website**

<https://ach4.org.au/2025-conference/>

**HIV, Hepatitis, HTLV-1, co-infection & COVID-19 & BBV/STI topics will include:**

- Genomics
- Methods and diagnostic assays
- Microbicides
- Persistence and latency
- Replication
- Therapies and drug resistance
- Vaccines
- Virus and host cell interactions
- Immunity
- Pathogenesis

## Organising Committee

### HIV

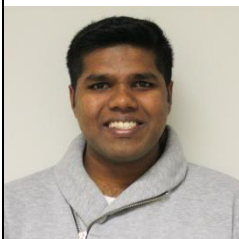


Dr Lindi Masson is Deputy Director of the Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health Program and Head of the HIV, Inflammation and Microbiome Group at Burnet. The focus of her research is to understand risk factors for sexually transmitted infections, including HIV, and adverse birth outcomes in women and girls. Her work aims to use this knowledge to develop affordable and feasible tools to improve sexual and reproductive health, particularly in resource-limited settings. E: [Lindi.Masson@burnet.edu.au](mailto:Lindi.Masson@burnet.edu.au)



Dr Gabriel Duette is a Research Scientist at The Westmead Institute for Medical Research (WIMR) and Adjunct Lecturer at the University of Sydney. He holds the Mathilde Krim Fellowships in Biomedical Research from amfAR (the Foundation for AIDS research). Gabriel co-leads the HIV reservoir group at Centre for Virus Research (CVR), WIMR along with Professor Sarah Palmer. Currently Gabriel is investigating the role of CD8 T cells and HIV persistence in individuals who can control the infection after treatment interruption, and also in people living with HIV and TB. E: [gabriel.duette@sydney.edu.au](mailto:gabriel.duette@sydney.edu.au)

### Hepatitis



Dr Arunasingam (Arun) Abayasingam completed his Bachelor's Degree in Science with Honours at the University of New South Wales in 2016. During his studies, he focused on pathology and pharmacology, undertaking a project investigate the effects of epidermal growth factor receptor targeted and metabolic inhibitor combination therapy in osteosarcomas. In 2017, Arun joined the Viral Immunology Systems Program as a Postgraduate Student under the supervision of Dr Rowena Bull and Dr Chaturaka Rodrigo. His current project includes characterising Hepatitis C (HCV) Transmitted/Founder virus, understanding the host-viral interaction during acute HCV infection, and investigating the host-viral interactions in HCV re-infection. Findings of this project will potentially contribute towards designing an effective protective vaccine against HCV. E: [aabayasingam@kirby.unsw.edu.au](mailto:aabayasingam@kirby.unsw.edu.au)



A/Prof Grubor-Bauk is the Head of Viral Immunology Group at the Adelaide Medical School, University of Adelaide. She trained as a virologist, immunologist, and vaccine scientist and after postdoctoral training and a period in Biotech, she now leads a collaborative research program which encompasses discovery and translational science components. Multidisciplinary approach of her group covers areas of translational immunology and vaccine development. We collaborate and work closely with clinician scientists in the areas of long COVID, severe respiratory illnesses and sepsis, as well as responses to vaccination in immunocompromised and elderly. The group is focussed on the development of novel nucleic acid vaccines (mRNA/pDNA) against different pathogens, for human and veterinary use. Recently we have expanded our research portfolio into development of novel mRNA vaccines in cancer therapy and bacterial infections. E: [branka.grubor@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:branka.grubor@adelaide.edu.au)



Australian Centre for  
HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research

## Event Venue & Onsite - Accommodation Details

**The Coogee Bay Hotel**

**Conference: Seaview & Seabreeze Rooms**

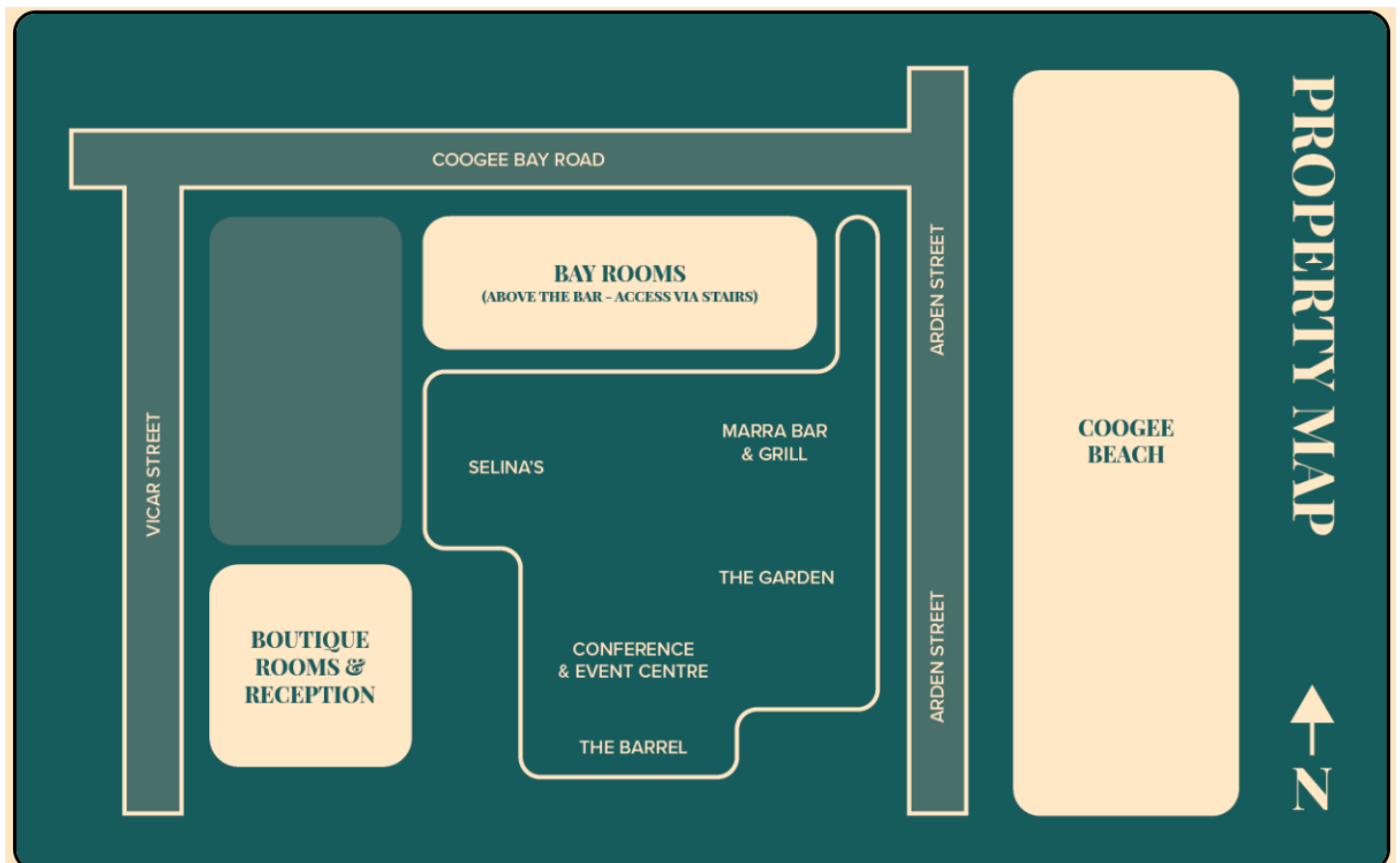
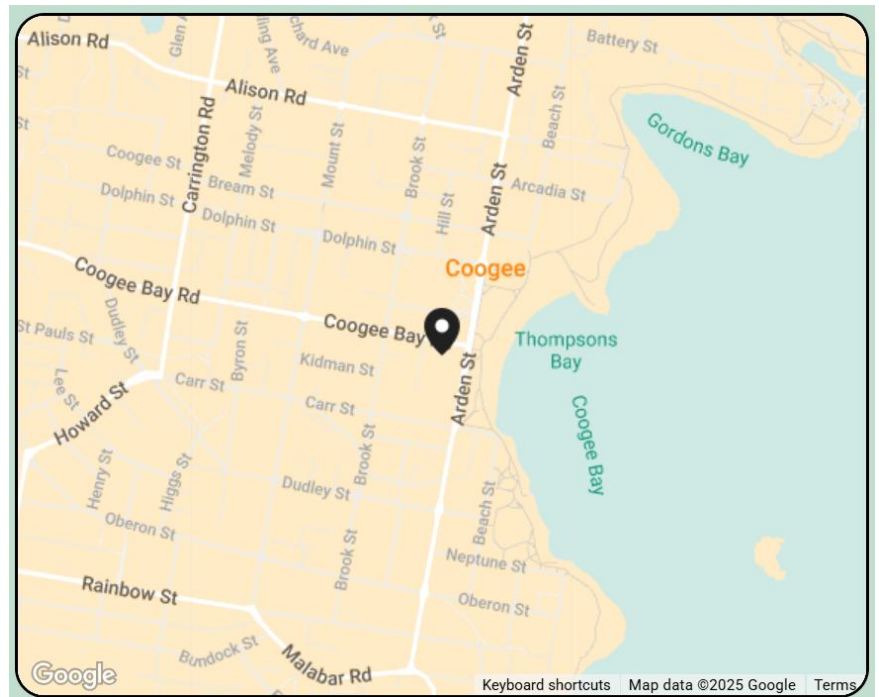
[253 Coogee Bay Rd.](#)

[Coogee NSW 2034](#)

P: 02 9665 0000

Run of House Accommodation Rooms

W: <https://coogeebayhotel.com.au/>





## Accommodation > *Wednesday 25 & Thursday 26 June 2025*

\* Check-in is from 02:00pm and check-out is until 10:00am  
(you must check out on Friday morning & we will store luggage at the back of the meeting room)

\* Breakfast is available at an additional cost of \$25.00 per person, per day.  
[Guests can book upon registration online or at hotel check-in]

- **Accommodation - Run of House Boutique (SINGLE Room)**
  - Total for 2 nights: \$420.00 (*\$210.00 per night*)  
[Breakfast Optional: \$25.00 per person/per day]
- **Accommodation - Run of House Boutique (TWIN Room) 2 Guests**
  - Total for 2 nights: \$460.00 (*\$230.00 per person stay*)  
[Breakfast Optional: \$25.00 per person/per day]  
[For twin occupancy accommodation, please indicate guest names when registering]

## The Coogee Bay Hotel

For over 150 years, Coogee Bay Hotel has hugged the stunning coastline of Coogee Beach. As a bustling seaside village grew up around us over the decades, locals made this place the heart of their community. We've grown along with Coogee, from a neighbourhood pub to a thriving hub of food, drink, accommodation, sport, entertainment and shopping, around an outdoor beachside oasis.

With Coogee Beach right on your doorstep, scores of unique retail stores, delicious eateries, access to the stunning coastal walk and a simple 20-minute trip to the city centre, there is so much waiting to be explored.

## Timetable

- Conference registration & light refreshments will be available from 1:00pm-2:00pm, outside the Seabreeze Room
- The conference welcome will begin at 2:00pm on Wednesday 25 June 2025
- The conference will conclude at 2:00pm on Friday 27 June 2025
- **Paid Registration includes** the use of venue facilities, abstract program book, all catering throughout the event, barista, transfers (for interstate delegates) from Airport to venue & return at event close on Friday. The networking event on Wednesday night, being held on site & our Gala dinner on Thursday evening, also onsite.

## Registration

**Registration** (closes Friday 25 April at 5:00pm AEST)

Student - \$285.00

Employed - \$495.00

## Virtual (zoom) Attendance

Student – \$50.00

Employed – \$100.00



\* If you are unable to attend in person please register to attend virtually (you may also present your work in this form).

|                               |                                   |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Employed - Virtual Attendance | \$100.00<br>+ \$3.00 fee<br>- 0 + |
| Student - Virtual Attendance  | \$50.00<br>+ \$1.75 fee<br>- 0 +  |

Registration link can be found on the website:

[Register Here](#)

**\*\*If you have any issues or questions with your booking, please contact Jo Reidy:  
[Joanne.reidy@wimr.org.au](mailto:Joanne.reidy@wimr.org.au) or 0424 754 557\*\***

### Event Cancellation Details

Cancellation on or before 3 June 2025 - 90% refund.

Cancellation on or after 4 June 2025 - no refund.

Registrations are transferable.

### Transfers

Interstate guests: 2 minibuses' will be arranged from Sydney airport travelling to The Coogee Bay Hotel.

**Please book your flight to arrive at Sydney Airport no later than 10:30am on Wednesday 25 June and depart no earlier than 4:30pm on Friday 27 June.**

- On Wednesday 25 June buses will depart from Sydney Airport at 11 & 11:30am for The Coogee Bay Hotel
- On Friday 27 June buses will depart from The Coogee Bay Hotel at 2:15pm for Sydney Airport in time for flights

Additional information will be communicated to the relevant delegates closer to the time.

### Parking at The Coogee Bay Hotel

There is limited parking onsite and is filled quickly, there is a fee associated, however please do reach out to Jo Reidy should you wish to book a space, subject to availability.

### Public Transport

To reach the Coogee Bay Hotel via public transport, take the train to Bondi Junction Station, then hop on the 350 bus towards Coogee and get off at the Arden St opp Coogee Bay Rd bus stop.



### Here's a more detailed breakdown:

- Train: Take the T4 train from your starting point to Bondi Junction Station.
- Bus: From Bondi Junction Station, Stand F, take the 350 bus towards Coogee.
- Bus Stop: Get off at the Arden St opp Coogee Bay Rd bus stop.
- Alternative Bus: You can also take the 373 bus from Museum Station, Liverpool St, Stand G to Arden St At Coogee Bay Rd.
- Other bus routes: Bus routes 350, 370, 373, 313, 373X, 718E, 374, 374X, 362, 719E, 619E all pass near the Coogee Bay Hotel.

### Prize eligibility

Presenting students, research assistants and early career researchers (up to 5 years postdoc) are eligible for a prize. Please complete the 'Prize eligibility' section on the Abstract Form. Advise if you intend to apply for an ACHV- Hepatitis Domestic Travel Award (Students/ECRs only) – via the abstract form online [here](#).

### ECR Breakfast Workshop Session

An invitation is extended to young Scientists who would like to participate in a career focused workshop session with invited keynote speakers, taking place on Thursday 26 June from 8am at in the Seabreeze Room. Please confirm your interest on the Registration Form [here](#).

### About Sydney

**Sydney** is the capital city of the state of New South Wales and the most populous city in Australia. Located on Australia's east coast, the metropolis surrounds Sydney Harbour and extends about 80 km (50 mi) from the Pacific Ocean in the east to the Blue Mountains in the west, and about 80 km (50 mi) from Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park and the Hawkesbury River in the north and north-west, to the Royal National Park and Macarthur in the south and south-west.

Greater Sydney consists of 658 suburbs, spread across 33 local government areas. Residents of the city are colloquially known as "Sydneyiders". The estimated population in June 2024 was 5,557,233, which is about 66% of the state's population. The city's nicknames include the **Emerald City** and the **Harbour City**.

In Sydney during June, which marks the start of winter, expect average temperatures ranging from a low of around 8°C (47°F) to a high of around 17°C

Please pack warm clothing as we utilise outdoor spaces, you may also wish to walk along the beach pathway.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or a member of the organising committee should you require any additional information or assistance.

[Joanne.reidy@wimr.org.au](mailto:Joanne.reidy@wimr.org.au) or 0424 754 557

**Thank you for your support & we look forward to welcoming you in June!**