



The 2026 PSAD Annual Scientific Meeting: Call for Symposia, Workshops and Masterclasses

A key aim of the **PsychoSocial Aspects of Diabetes (PSAD) Study Group** is to stimulate researchers and clinicians to conduct and implement high-quality scientific research in the field of the psychological, social and behavioural aspects of diabetes, to support all people living with, at risk of, or affected by, all types of diabetes.

The PSAD Study Group invites you to design and lead engaging symposia or workshops or masterclasses at the forthcoming [2026 PSAD Scientific Meeting](#), 17-19 February 2026, Geelong, Australia. These are typically held as an optional extra (pre- or post-conference). This is an outstanding opportunity to advance diabetes psychosocial research, connect with global leaders, and translate ideas into action.

Quick facts

Workshops/symposia may be up to 2 hours in duration (max). Longer formats can be considered but applicants will need to make a compelling case.

When? Sessions will be held on Friday 20th February at either: 08.30am – 10:30am or 11.00am – 1pm

Where? Waurin Ponds Estate, Geelong, Australia

Capacity: Up to four symposia or workshops or masterclasses (two per timeslot in parallel sessions)

Support available: Venue, refreshments, standard audio-visual / IT

Symposia

Proposals to convene a symposium must include:

- Symposium title (max 25 words)
- A nominated chair or co-chairs (names, affiliations)
- Structured session outline (max 250 words), including:
 - Aim(s) and/or anticipated learning objectives or outputs from the session
 - List of 2-4 presentations (speaker names, affiliations, titles). Presentations should total no more than 90 minutes of the 2-hour timeslot. Symposia may provide new information, application of evidence or an overview of an area, with strong opportunity to generate discussion.
 - Interactive panel discussion (minimum 30 minutes) to foster audience engagement

- Demonstration of how lived experience or community engagement will feature, e.g. how this has been or will be incorporated into your session
- Expected duration of session (maximum total 2 hours).
- Name and email address of key contact for the proposal.
- Estimate anticipated size of audience, e.g. is this likely to appeal to most delegates or to a more niche audience focused on a particular issue or population?
- Describe any anticipated audio-visual, IT or other requirements.

• Workshops

Proposals to convene a Workshop must include:

- Workshop title (max 25 words)
- A nominated facilitator or facilitators (names, affiliations)
- Structured session outline (e.g. max 250 words), including:
 - Aim(s) and/or anticipated learning objectives or outputs from the session
 - Brief scene setting introduction to establish shared understanding of the issue to be workshopped (maximum 30 minutes)
 - Interactive group-based discussions or activities (minimum 60 minutes), to build skills, insights or collaboration.
 - Wrap-up session, summarising group feedback / next steps.
- Demonstration of how lived experience or community engagement will feature, e.g. how this has been or will be incorporated into your session
- Expected duration of session (maximum total 2 hours).
- Name and email address of key contact for the proposal.
- Anticipated size of audience, e.g. is this likely to appeal to most delegates or to a more niche audience focused on a particular issue or population?
- Describe any anticipated audio-visual, IT or other requirements, e.g. room setup. NB. Facilitators are responsible for providing any workshop-specific materials or pre-reading the attendees may need. On request, the PSAD Study Group can provide basic materials, e.g. flipcharts, stationery.

Masterclasses

Proposals to convene a Masterclass must include:

- Masterclass title (max 25 words)
- A nominated instructor or instructor(s) (names, affiliations), with a statement of recognised expertise/mastery in the field
- Structured session outline (e.g. max 250 words), including:
 - The specific advanced skill/technique to be taught
 - Intended learning objectives or outputs from the session
 - Planned structure, e.g. expert demonstration, live teaching/feedback, interactive exercises, participant practice, Q&A
 - Materials or pre-requisites, recommended prior knowledge/skills for attendees
 - Wrap-up session, summarising group feedback / next steps.
- Demonstration of how lived experience or community engagement will feature, e.g. how this has been or will be incorporated into your session; or indication of why this is not applicable
- Expected duration of session (maximum total 2 hours).
- Name and email address of key contact for the proposal.

- Anticipated size of audience, e.g. is this likely to appeal to most delegates or to a more niche audience focused on a particular issue or population?
- Describe any anticipated audio-visual, IT or other requirements, e.g. room setup. NB. Instructors are responsible for providing any masterclass-specific materials or pre-reading the attendees may need. On request, the PSAD Study Group can provide basic materials, e.g. flipcharts, stationery.

Summary of differences between Symposia, Workshops and Masterclasses

Format	Audience Level	Focus Area	Structure	Typical Activities
<i>Symposium</i>	Mixed; all levels	Latest research, discussion	Chair(s), multiple speakers & panel discussion	Formal presentations, panel Q&A
<i>Workshop</i>	Mixed; all levels	Collaborative learning / problem solving	Facilitated group work	Discussion, interactive tasks
<i>Masterclass</i>	Advanced; motivated	Development of specialised skills / techniques	Tuition led by expert instructor	Demonstration, practice, feedback

Who should apply?

The PSAD Study Group especially encourages submissions with a focus on:

- Speakers / facilitators who are early-career or mid-career researchers or health professionals or people with lived experience
- Interdisciplinary teams, including explicit inclusion of lived experience
- Equity, diversity, inclusion; novel methods; knowledge-to-practice transfer

Review and selection procedure

Applications will be judged by a panel, nominated by the Executive Committee of the PSAD Study Group. The panel will consist of one member of the Executive Committee and at least two other acknowledged experts in psychosocial research in diabetes. Panel members will declare no major conflict of interests with the applicants. In the case that it is not possible to identify panel members with no such conflicts, then a broader panel will be convened to ensure transparency of process and decision making.

Proposals will be evaluated according to their:

- Clarity
- Relevance to the mission of the PSAD Study Group
- Innovation
- Scientific quality
- Quality of proposed interactivity
- Inclusion of community engagement / lived experience, either in the preparation or presentation of the symposium or workshop
- Feasibility within time, format and available resources
- Significance (clinical or for people living with diabetes)

How will successful applicants be notified?

The recipient(s) will be notified via email within one month of the closing date (unless exceptional circumstances apply).

What else do I need to know?

- The PSAD Study Group is committed to supporting innovation, inclusivity, and the meaningful involvement of people with lived experience. Please refer to international #LanguageMatters guidance and ensure respectful communication. Reasonable expenses for accepted workshops/symposia will be covered, including room hire and catering. The PSAD will provide reasonable support (e.g., room booking, refreshments, catering).
- The PSAD Study Group is unable to support the travel costs for speakers / facilitators. If this is required, then the convenor(s) need to have a plan for seeking sponsorship to enable such support.
- Re sponsorship, e.g. do you think it is possible to seek sponsorship to support this session? The PSAD Executive Committee can work with you to explore this – Sponsorship is not a requirement for a successful proposal. All proposals for seeking sponsorship must be raised with the Executive Committee to ensure that any such sponsorships is appropriate and does not conflict with any existing sponsorship arrangements or policies.

- **How to apply**

Please submit your proposals to info@psadgroup.org, **by 11.59pm CET on Sunday 9th November 2025.**