

## Telehealth: How to make it work

### Panellist biographies



**Dr Jonathan Ho**

GP, NSW

Dr Jonathan Ho is a practicing GP from Wagga Wagga, NSW.

Jonathan has a special interest in mental health, and is currently working in youth mental health (headspace, Wagga Wagga); adult mental health (LikeMind, Wagga Wagga) and Indigenous health (Riverina Medical & Dental Aboriginal Cooperation).

Jonathan is a visiting medical officer at Calvary Hospital, where he is part of the clinical team at the drug and alcohol unit. He is an accredited Methadone and Suboxone prescriber. In addition, Jonathan is a visiting medical officer at Wagga Wagga Rural Referral Hospital as a forensics examiner.

Prior to this, Jonathan was awarded a Bachelor of Medical Science (honours) from The University of Sydney, and a Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery from The University of Wollongong.

In 2017, he received the Registrar of the Year (Murrumbidgee/ACT) as well as his Fellowship with the Royal Australia College of General Practitioners.



**Jacintha Bell**

Occupational Therapist, WA

Jacintha Bell is a senior occupational therapist, graduating with a BSc (Occupational Therapy) from Curtin University, WA in 2001.

She has over 15 years of experience as an OT in mental health. She has worked in psychiatric hospitals, community mental health services, pain clinics, within her own private practice and on a phone based triage and crisis line covering a rural area of Western Australia.

Jacintha has a passion for working with people who experience chronic conditions, helping them achieve their goals, develop new skills and overcome any barriers they may face in order to live the life they want.

Jacintha is registered with the Occupational Therapy Board of Australia. She is a member of Occupational Therapy Australia, the World Federation of Occupational Therapy and the Australian Pain Society.

Jacintha often provides professional development in the areas of mental health and chronic pain to

other health professionals and has tutored at both undergraduate and postgraduate level within the School of Occupational Therapy at Curtin University.

In 2014, Jacintha started her own private practice, LifeWorks Occupational Therapy, in Perth, Western Australia. Her practice offers mental health based occupational therapy services. This includes focussed psychological strategies provided under Medicare's Better Access to Mental Health Care. As many of the clients referred to LifeWorks are living in rural and sometimes remote areas of Western Australia, Jacintha provides telephone and Skype based appointments.



**Julianne Whyte**  
Social Worker, NSW

As founder and CEO of the Amaranth Foundation (2009), Julianne Whyte has worked extensively across the rural communities of the NSW Riverina.

Julianne graduated in nursing from St Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne (1978) and completed a Bachelor of Social Work (2003) at La Trobe University.

Julianne is a registered member of the Australian Association of Social Work (AASW), a member of the Clinical Division of the College of Social Work and is an accredited Clinical Mental Health Social Worker.

Since 2009, Julianne and the Amaranth Foundation has received over \$1.7 million dollars for Commonwealth and Philanthropic projects focussing on supporting people with advanced chronic and terminal illnesses and their families and caregiver needs. She has extensive experience in community development and education with a

particular passion for narrative approaches to communication and personal interaction.

Julianne has held a casual lecturing and student liaison role with many Universities including Charles Sturt, The University of New England and Deakin University. She was the co-chair of the education committee of Oncology Social Work Australia until 2015, is a current member of the NSW Social Work Palliative Care Practice Group, where she is driving a working group looking at competency standards for social workers in end of life and palliative care for the Australian context.

Julianne has established and facilitates two Commonwealth funded Mental Health Professional Networks with a focus on end of life and grief and loss. As CEO of Amaranth, Julianne provided evidence to the Senate Inquiry into Palliative Care in Australia and the model of social work that she is developing is referenced in the final report to Government.

She is now working towards obtaining her PhD and was recently nominated for the 2017 AASW elections as a Board Member. Julianne received an Order of Australia medal for her work advancing palliative care in the community, in the 2017 Australia Day Awards.



**Dr Louise Roufeil**  
Executive Manager of  
Professional Services – APS, VIC

Dr Louise Roufeil is currently the Executive Manager of Professional Practice at the Australian Psychological Society (APS). This role includes developing policy and standards related to the professional practice of psychology.

Louise was previously the mental health academic at Mount Isa Centre for Rural and Remote Health,

James Cook University, and is currently Adjunct Associate Professor in Psychology at Charles Sturt University.

Louise resided in rural Australia for over 20 years and was formerly Clinical Program Director at the NSW Central West Division of General Practice and a consultant with Kristine Battye Consulting, providing services to the primary health and community services sectors in rural and remote Australia. Louise also practiced as a health psychologist in regional NSW.



**Facilitator: Dr Konrad Kangru**  
GP, QLD

Dr Konrad Kangru gained his MBBS from The University of Queensland in 2000 and has been in private rural general practice in the Whitsundays region of Queensland since 2005, where he has been a GP supervisor and medical educator since 2009.

Dr Kangru has remained a very active advocate for improving the support of rural doctors, especially through the Rural Doctors Association of Queensland, having convened their 2011 and 2015 conferences.

Dr Kangru has also undertaken and presented his research on the self-care of rural doctors, and has special interests in medical education and diabetes management, particularly in up-skilling colleagues about this important condition.