



The 21st Australian Conference on haemophilia, VWD and rare bleeding disorders was held on 24 to 26 August 2023 in Melbourne and saw over 210 delegates come together - people with bleeding disorders and their families and carers, health professionals, policy makers and industry. It was wonderful to be face-to-face again.

The theme was **Working together – improving outcomes**. Over 50 speakers contributed to a vibrant and diverse educational program, covering new and emerging therapies, including gene therapy, women

with bleeding disorders, mild haemophilia, VWD, rare bleeding disorders, family planning, pregnancy and newborns, making career choices, getting older, pain, and musculoskeletal issues.

In the final plenary Sharon Caris facilitated a discussion with a panel of health professional and community experts, reviewing the discussions over the two days and answering the questions: what are the challenges we are facing moving forward; and how do we keep connected? It was a lively conclusion to the Conference and the final take-home message was:

‘There is a lot of challenging work to do, but we are in exciting times. There is reason to be optimistic.’

Most of the presentations are now available online at: <https://www.haemophilia.org.au/Presentations23>

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we met for this Conference, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people, and pay respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

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