
Press release***For immediate release*****30 July 2024****First sessions for World Physiotherapy Congress 2025 announced**

World Physiotherapy is pleased to announce the first sessions at the world's largest gathering of the profession – World Physiotherapy Congress 2025, to be held in Tokyo, 29-31 May 2025.

A record number of focused symposia were submitted – 164 in total.

The congress programme includes 24 confirmed focused symposia featuring 93 speakers from 39 countries/territories. This includes nine countries/territories represented at a focused symposia for the first time, since 2017: Chile, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Oman, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sri Lanka, Turkey.

Focused symposia are core sessions where cutting edge relevant topics will be explored from an international and diverse perspective. Speakers will create insightful and engaging learning experiences that inform, inspire, involve and empower participants. Details of the newly announced symposia, including speakers, are provided in the attached sheets.

Catherine Joy Escudra, chair of World Physiotherapy's congress programme committee (CPC), said: "We were incredibly pleased with the breadth and quality of the many proposals we received. The focused symposia to be presented in Tokyo combine truly global perspectives with content that we believe represents the professional challenges that physiotherapists around the world are facing today. The topics cover a range of timely topics, such as pain management, sustainable developmental models, innovative technology, and health literacy, and are relevant to clinicians, managers, educators, and researchers.

"Focused symposia are a great opportunity to hear from experts in their area and gain a unique global understanding and insight into a particular field.

"The CPC is excited to announce the first confirmed programming for World Physiotherapy Congress 2025 and looks forward to developing it further with relevant and innovative content."

Each focused symposium is organised by a recognised expert in the field, who leads an international group of speakers working together and engaging with the audience to draw out the relevance, challenges, applicability and take-home messages.

More details about the [focused symposia for World Physiotherapy Congress 2025](#)

Note to World Physiotherapy member organisations: please use this information in your magazine, journal, newsletter or social media channels. It may also be forwarded to your local or national media.

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EDITOR'S NOTES

About physiotherapy

Physiotherapists are experts in developing and maintaining people's ability to move and function throughout their lives. With an advanced understanding of how the body moves and what keeps it from moving well, they promote wellness, mobility and independence. They treat and prevent many problems caused by pain, illness, disability and disease, sport and work-related injuries, ageing and inactivity.

Physiotherapists are educated over several years, giving them a full knowledge of the body's systems and the skills to treat a wide range of problems. This education is usually university-based, at a level that allows physiotherapists to practise independently. Continuing education ensures that they keep up to date with the latest advances in research and practice. Many physiotherapists are engaged in research themselves.

About World Physiotherapy

World Physiotherapy is the profession's global body representing over 600,000 physiotherapists from member organisations in 128 countries/territories. More information: www.world.physio

Focused symposia

BRIDGING GAPS AND BREAKING BARRIERS- A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE ON PROVIDING PHYSIOTHERAPY CARE FOR PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

Chair: **Jo Dawes** (United Kingdom)

Speakers: **Salony Raskar** (India), **Julie Broderick** (Ireland), **Tonya Miller** (United States)

CENTERING GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES THROUGH STORYTELLING: HOW DISABILITY INFORMS PHYSIOTHERAPY

Chair: **Erin Keough** (Canada)

Speakers: **Sidhi Mohapatra** (India), **Adesola Odole** (Nigeria), **Ruby Chin A Fat** (Suriname)

CHANGING MODELS IN GERIATRIC PHYSIOTHERAPY

Chair: **Sonia Souto Camba** (Spain)

Speakers: **Kesia Castro** (Brazil), **Amara Perera** (Sri Lanka), **Rudi Steenbruggen** (Netherlands)

CLINIC TO CLASSROOM: PHYSIOTHERAPISTS' PERSPECTIVE ON INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY FOR INCLUSION OF CHILDREN WITH NEURODEVELOPMENTAL DISORDERS

Chair: **Chanan Goyal** (India)

Speakers: **Waqar Mohsin Naqvi** (United Arab Emirates), **Tracey Smythe** (United Kingdom), **Ines Musabyemariya** (Yemen)

DIVING INTO DIGITAL HEALTH AND DATA: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR PHYSIOTHERAPISTS

Chair: **Mark Merolli** (Australia)

Speakers: **Naoki Akiyoshi** (Japan), **Corelien Kloek** (Netherlands), **Felipe Reis** (Brazil)

DYNAMIC TOOLS TO ADVANCE SUSTAINABLE REHABILITATION WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TO SUPPORT THE REHABILITATION 2030 AGENDA

Chair: **Rachael Lowe** (United Kingdom)

Speakers: **Larisa Hoffman** (United States), **Martina Lukin** (Georgia), **Yara Peterko** (Austria)

ENGAGEMENT WITH ECOLOGICAL THEORY TO SUPPORT INDIVIDUALS' UNIQUE CONTEXTS AND ABILITIES IN PHYSIOTHERAPY

Chair: **Sarah M Schwab-Farrell** (United States)

Speakers: **Karime Mescouto** (Australia), **Paula L Silva** (United States), **Peter Stilwell** (Denmark)

EXPLORING EXCELLENCE IN GLOBAL STROKE REHABILITATION

Chair: **Rachel C Stockley** (United Kingdom)

Speakers: **Thoshenthri Kandasamy** (Australia), **John M Solomon** (India)

FIRST CONTACT PHYSIOTHERAPY: ADDRESSING IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES ACROSS A RANGE OF CULTURAL CONTEXTS

Chair: **Nicola Walsh** (United Kingdom)

Speakers: **Kenneth Chance-Larsen** (Norway), **Rachel Fenemor** (New Zealand), **Chidozi Mbada** (United Kingdom)

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES IN PHYSICAL THERAPY: DEVELOPMENT OF SUSTAINABLE MODELS FOR PRACTICE AND EDUCATION IN LOW RESOURCE SETTINGS

Chair: **Nihad A. Almasri** (Jordan)

Speakers: **Elizabeth Anderson** (Sierra Leone), **Zehra Habib** (Pakistan), **Durga Shah** (United States)

HEALTH LITERACY AND PHYSIOTHERAPY: RELEVANCE AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENTRY TO PRACTICE CURRICULA, ORGANISATIONAL POLICY AND STRUCTURE, AND CLINICIANS

Chair: **Marie-Louise Bird** (Australia)

Speakers: **Romany Martin** (Australia), **Rhodaine Okai** (Ghana), **Meredith Yeung** (Singapore)

HELPING HEALTHCARE LEARN: LEARNING HEALTH SYSTEMS IN PHYSIOTHERAPY

Chair: **Philip Van der Wees** (Netherlands)

Speakers: **Ken Harwood** (United States), **Henri Kiers** (Netherlands), **Nisrine Lattouf** (Lebanon)

MAKING SENSE OF OSTEOARTHRITIS

Chair: **Ben Darlow** (New Zealand)

Speakers: **Hilal Ata** (Türkiye), **Samantha Bunzli** (Australia), **Brooke Conley** (Australia)

MEASURING WHAT MATTERS - THE RELEVANCE OF CORE OUTCOME SETS TO PHYSIOTHERAPY

Chair: **Paula Williamson** (United Kingdom)

Speakers: **Fiona Dobson** (Australia), **Ivan Florez** (Colombia), **Lenny Vasanthan** (India)

OPTIMISING OUTCOMES AND SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH ACROSS ALL SETTINGS: OPPORTUNITIES FOR PHYSIOTHERAPISTS IN COLLABORATION, EXERCISE, AND PAIN.

Chair: **Ellen Lake** (Australia)

Speakers: **Sophie Heywood** (Australia), **Brendon Stubbs** (United Kingdom), **Davy Vancampfort** (Belgium)

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY GUIDELINES FOR PHYSIOTHERAPY PRACTICE: DOES ONE SIZE FIT ALL?

Chair: **Ashokan Arumugam** (United Arab Emirates)

Speakers: **Leanne Hasset** (Australia), **Suzanne McDonough** (Ireland), **Hanlie Moss** (South Africa)

PHYSICAL REHABILITATION IN CRITICAL CARE AND BEYOND: BRINGING TRIALS TO THE BEDSIDE

Chair: **Marika van der Schaaf** (Netherlands)

Speakers: **Sabrina Eggmann** (Switzerland), **Hajime Katsukawa** (Japan), **Anastasia Newman** (Canada)

REHABILITATION 2030: A CALL FOR ACTION. MATCHING REHABILITATION PROGRAMS TO THE LOCAL CONTEXT, EXAMPLES FROM ACROSS THE GLOBE

Chair: **Simone Dorsch** (Australia)

Speakers: **Lilian Carvalho** (Australia), **Simta K.C** (Nepal), **Kathiravan Tangaraju Anthony** (Malaysia)

THE ROLE OF PHYSIOTHERAPISTS IN TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE

Chair: **Ilona Fricker** (South Africa)

Speakers: **Farah Aidweik** (Jordan), **Lotta Carlsson** (Finland)

RUNNING IS NOT BAD FOR THE KNEES. WHAT IF IT HELPED JOINTS STAY HEALTHY?

Chair: **Jean-Francois Esculier** (Canada)

Speakers: **Manuela Besomi** (Australia), **Yuichi Takata** (Japan)

TELEREHABILITATION FOR MUSCULOSKELETAL CONDITIONS IN MIDDLE AND LOW-INCOME COUNTRIES: HOW CAN WE EMPOWER BETTER HEALTHCARE?

Chair: **Bruno Tirotti Saragiotto** (Australia)

Speakers: **Alexandre Lopes** (United States), **Wintana Mekonnen** (Ethiopia), **Gisela Miyamoto** (Brazil)

TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACH TO PAIN: ATTENDING TO THE HUMAN ASPECTS OF CARE.

Chair: **Lester Jones** (Singapore)

Speakers: **Miriam Dillon** (Australia), **April Gamble** (Iraq), **Clair Jacobs** (United Kingdom)

TRANSFORMING CLINICAL EDUCATION IN PHYSIOTHERAPY: CULTIVATING INHERENT AGENCY

Chair: **Joost van Wijchen** (Norway)

Speakers: **Jennifer Audette** (United States), **Alice Jones** (Australia), **Narasimman Swaminathan** (Oman)

WOMEN'S HEALTH: GLOBAL CHALLENGES FOR PHYSIOTHERAPISTS TO MAKE AN IMPACT IN CLINICAL, EDUCATIONAL SETTINGS AND BEYOND

Chair: **Sonia Roa-Alcaino** (Chile)

Speakers: **Faizah Abdullah Djawas** (Indonesia), **Cristine Homsy Jorge** (Brazil), **Ayako Yamamoto** (Japan)
