

National Imaging Facility Annual Scientific Meeting 2026

Community Workshops program, Wednesday 29 July, Newcastle

Wednesday 29 July: NIF Community Workshops Newcastle City Hall			
Time	Molecular Imaging and Radiochemistry Banquet Room (Ground Floor)	Data & Magnetic Resonance 1 (MR1) Cummings Room (First Floor)	Magnetic Resonance 2 (MR2) Mulubinba Room (First Floor)
09: 00	Registration (09:00 – 10:00)		
09:30	Morning Tea (09:30 – 10:00)		
10:00	NIF PET and Radiochemistry Scientists Joint Workshop (10:00 – 12:30)	Australian Imaging Service: Data Capture, Analysis, and Automation (10:00 – 12:30)	NIF Radiographers Community of Practice (10:00 - 11:00)
10:30			NIF Human MRI Network Meeting (11:00 - 12:30)
11:00			
11:30			
12:00			
12:30	Lunch (12:30 – 13:00)		
13:00	NIF PET and Radiochemistry Scientists Joint Workshop – Continued (13:00 – 15:00)	Building a National Framework for Quantitative MRI Harmonisation: Practical approaches to QA/QC, multicentre reproducibility, and scalable harmonisation (13:00 - 15:00)	Third Annual ULF and LF MR Workshop (13:00 - 15:00)
13:30			
14:00			
14:30			
15:00	Afternoon tea (15:00 – 15:30)		
15:30	NIF PET and Radiochemistry Scientists Joint Workshop – Continued (15:30 – 17:00)	Engaging and creating relationships with the Indigenous communities in research - yarning as methodology (15:30 - 17:00)	MEG in Australia: Systems, Applications and Next Steps (15:30 - 16:30)
16:00			
16:30			

NATIONAL IMAGING FACILITY
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MEETING 2026

29–31 JULY
NEWCASTLE

Scientific Symposium program, Thursday 30 July, Newcastle

Thursday 30 July: NIF Scientific Symposium Concert Hall, Newcastle City Hall			
	Name	Affiliation	Topic
08:00	Welcome to Country (Civic Park Newcastle, across Newcastle City Hall)		
08:30	Registration		
08:45	Emeritus Prof Annabelle Duncan	National Imaging Facility	Welcome
08:50	Prof Wojtek Goscinski	National Imaging Facility	Introduction to National Imaging Facility 2026 and beyond
	Session 1: Searching for a Cure: What Brain Cancer Imaging Can Tell Us		Chair: A/Prof Eng-Siew Koh
09:00	Mark Hughes OAM	Mark Hughes Foundation	From Diagnosis to Hope: A Consumer and Philanthropic Vision for Brain Cancer
09:15	Dr Kim Wark	Robert Connor Dawes Foundation	The Paediatric Brain Cancer Data Linkage Platform- demonstration of a national model
09:30	Prof Michael Fay	Mark Hughes Foundation	Theranostics in Brain Cancer
09:45	Dr Elizabeth (Lizzie) Mason	WEHI	BRAIN-SCAN: A National Imaging Infrastructure for Collaborative Brain Cancer Research
10:00	Panel discussion		
10:15	NIF 20 th Birthday Celebration		
10:30	Networking break Morning tea		
	Session 2: Innovative Applications of Preclinical Imaging and Theranostics		Chair: Prof Steven Meikle
11:00	Dr Nick Fletcher	University of Queensland	Alpha therapies - theranostics and radiobiology for translation and prognosis
11:15	Dr Jessica Buck	The Kids Research Institute	Using imaging to understand the long-term effects of childhood brain cancer treatment". planning to talk about using MRI to characterise the long-term effects of radiotherapy to the brain (in mice)
11:30	Dr Stacey Rudd	University of Melbourne	Antibody-targeted radiopharmaceuticals: From bench to bedside.
11:45	Dr Gary Cowin	University of Queensland	Blood Brain Barrier assessment by MR-PET
12:00	Panel discussion		
12:15	Networking break Lunch and Poster session		
	Session 3: Understanding the Brain Through Imaging		Chair: Prof Michael Breakspear
13:15	Prof Fernando Calamante	University of Sydney	Diffusion MRI Tractogram: A reference frame for medical imaging analysis
13:30	Dr Sophie Lin	University of Melbourne	Assessing Cerebellar Responses to Vestibular Stimulation with OPM-MEG and EEG: A Pilot Study
13:45	Dr Lena Oestrich	University of Queensland	The Australian Trauma Biobank: A Multimodal Imaging and Biomarker Platform for PTSD and Complex PTSD

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14:00	Prof Luke Henderson	University of Sydney	Ultra-High Field Functional Imaging of Pain and Analgesia in Humans
14:15	Panel discussion		
14:30	Networking break Afternoon tea		
15:00	A/Prof Saadallah Ramadan	Hunter Medical Research Institute (HMRI)	Overview of Hunter Medical Research Institute (HMRI)
	Session 4: Imaging in First Peoples Community		Chair: Uncle Malcolm Smith
15:10	Dr Jennifer Rumbel, Dr Guy Cameron, Ms Lillian Langford	University of Newcastle	Continuing to Do Research Differently
15:25	Ms Wendy Mohi, Ms Leigh Potter	Matai Medical Research Institute	Ngāi Tuituinga a Mātai - Weaving enduring connections
15:40	Mr Gavin Stanbrook	Australian Research Data Commons (ARDC)	Our Data, Our Priorities: Indigenous Data and Indigenous Community Benefit
15:55	Panel discussion		
	Session 5: Imaging Power Pitch		Chair: Dr Ekaterina (Caty) Salimova and Dr Michael de Veer
16:10	Dr Ekaterina (Caty) Salimova and Dr Michael de Veer	Monash University	Session Introduction
16:14	Dr Ingrid Burvenich	La Trobe University / Olivia Newton-John Cancer Research Institute	PET Imaging Of 89Zr-Df-Ifabotuzumab-Pyrrolobenzodiazepine To Evaluate Biodistribution in an Intracranial Tumour Model
16:18	Dr Yun Zhao	University of Sydney	Harmonization of PET Kinetic Modelling Parameters Using Low-Rank Adaptation of Consistency Models
16:22	Ms Samiha Prima	University of Queensland	T2* Spectrum-Informed Myelin Water Fraction (MWF) Estimation from Multi-Echo Gradient-Echo Imaging under Variable Echo Configuration using Deep Learning
16:26	Dr Kh Tohidul Islam	Monash University	Population-Based Brain Templates for Ultra-Low-Field MRI
16:30	Dr Anthony Paproki	University of Queensland	Unearthing Crop Potential: Micro-CT and AI Image Analysis of Root Responses to High Soil Strength
16:34	Dr Michèle Masson-Trottier	University of Queensland	From Routine MRI to Personalised Aphasia Care: A Neurodesk Workflow for Stroke Lesion Decision Support
16:38	Mr Christian Behler	University of Newcastle	Noise-Aware Multi-Shell Diffusion MRI Thermometry Resolves a Ventricle-to-Subarachnoid CSF Temperature Gradient
16:42	Mr Adam Martinac	University of New South Wales (UNSW) – NeuRA	Biomechanics of yawning: insights into cranio-cervical fluid dynamics and kinematic consistency
16:46	Scoring Gap		
16:51	Awards and Closing Remarks		
17:00	Networking Drinks		
18:00	END		

NIF Community Meetings program, Friday 31 July, Newcastle

Please note that NIF Community Meetings are open only to members of the NIF Community.

Friday 31 July: NIF Community Meetings Newcastle City Hall		
Time	Cummings Room (First Floor)	Mulubinba Room (First Floor)
08:30	Registration (08:30 – 09:00)	
09:00	NIF Thematic Group Meeting: Human Imaging (09:00 – 10:30)	PET Harmonisation Workshop Planning Meeting (09:00 – 10:00)
09:30		NIF Thematic Group Meeting: Animals, Plants and Materials (10:00 – 10:30)
10:00		
10:30	Morning tea (10:30 – 11:00)	
11:00	NIF Human Molecular Imaging Network Meeting (11:00 – 13:00)	NIF Thematic Group Meeting: Informatics (11:00 – 13:00)
11:30		
12:00		
12:30		
13:00	Lunch (13:00 – 14:00)	
14:00	END	