



Thursday 26 November - Sunday 29 November 2026

Biological Psychiatry Congress

Century City Conference Centre, Cape Town

Bridging Brain, Behaviour & Beyond

www.biopsychsa.co.za

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Invitation

It is with great pleasure that we invite you to join us at the 2026 South African Biological Psychiatry Congress. Our congress theme for the 2026 congress is '*Bridging Brain, Behaviour & Beyond*'.

The 2026 congress will be a special event as it will be hosted in collaboration with the International Neuropsychiatric Association (INA). This year's theme captures the exciting convergence of neuroscience, psychiatry, psychology, and social science in shaping our understanding of mental health and wellbeing and speaks to dismantling silos by integrating brain into behavioural research, translating laboratory findings into clinical practice, and integrating community and lived experience into scientific inquiry. In alignment with our theme, this congress is also about 'bridging' organisations through meaningful collaboration, fostering a richer diversity of perspectives, and creating a stimulating experience for all. The 2026 Biological Psychiatry Congress will have a focus on neuropsychiatry which forms a foundation for linking brain function to behaviour, in alignment with our theme. Together, we will build on what is known about the neuroscientific basis of psychiatric disorders and move beyond our current understanding towards the future of psychiatric practice.

We are honoured to provide a platform in November 2026 to exchange the very latest in science, innovation, and practice, of relevance to the brain, behaviour, and psychiatric illness. We look forward to your presence and contribution. The organising committee is especially keen to welcome participation from members of the INA, registrars, early career psychiatrists, researchers and students, and encourages participation and support from industry.

In addition to the many beautiful natural and cultural attractions in Cape Town, the Century City precinct offers excellent accommodation and world-class shopping and dining facilities. The organising committee is intent on making your experience of the scientific and social program offerings at the 2026 Congress memorable.

We look forward to seeing you in November 2026!

Leigh van den Heuvel
Stellenbosch University
Congress Convenor, Biological Psychiatry Congress 2025

Valsamma Eapen
University of New South Wales
INA President 2025

Century City Conference Centre

4 Energy Ln, Century City, Cape Town, 7446





Congress Scientific- and Organising Committee

Chair: Leigh van den Heuvel

Deputy Chairs: Christine Lochner and Sian Hemmings

Posters

Jacqui Womersley

Erine Bocker

Kirsten Rowe

Thupana Seshoka

Oral Presentations

Sian Hemmings

Janine Brooker

Christine Lochner

Pre-Congress Workshops

Soraya Seedat

Dana Niehaus

Thupana Seshoka

Erine Bocker

James Burger

International Faculty

Soraya Seedat

Leigh van den Heuvel

Sian Hemmings

Local Faculty

Christine Lochner

Jacqui Womersley

Thupana Seshoka

Janine Brooker

Communication and Marketing

Erine Bocker

Matthew Mausling

Dana Niehaus

Social Events and Prizes

Matthew Mausling

James Burger

Leigh van den Heuvel

Jacqui Womersley

Early Career Track

James Burger

Janine Brooker

Matthew Mausling

Kirsten Rowe

Programme

Leigh van den Heuvel

Soraya Seedat

Sian Hemmings

Dana Niehaus

Administrative

Kirsten Rowe
Christine Lochner

INA Committee Members

President

Scientia Professor Valsamma Eapen

Secretary

Professor Sheldon Benjamin

Treasurer

Dr Elvina Chu

President Elect

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Immediate Past President

Professor Anthony David

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