

## **INVITED SPEAKERS**



**Dr Michael Downes** is an Emergency physician/Clinical Toxicologist and works as part of the consultant staff of the hunter area toxicology service (HATS), based in Newcastle, New South Wales, Australia. He is also a consultant to the New South Wales poisons information service and in 2018 became the inaugural president of TAPNA Inc, the representative body for the clinical toxicology community within Australasia.

He is active in both teaching and research being an associate researcher with the Clinical Toxicology Research Group, based at the University of Newcastle. His teaching portfolio includes tutoring on the TAPNA post graduate course. The latter is a one to two year programme whose participants include specialists in poisons information, clinical toxicology fellows and critical care clinicians with an interest in poisoning.

He has been involved in teaching in other parts of Asia including Sri Lanka where he has been involved with the 'Toxic issues in the ED – Sri Lanka' Toxicology course for Sri Lankan emergency medicine trainees. He was also part of the teaching faculty for the APAMT 2017 pre congress in Kandy, Sri Lanka as well as the 2023 congress in Kerala, India.

### **Toxic Case Discussions from Australasia**

Like many parts of Asia, Australasia presents a number of challenges to the poisoning/toxicology community whether that be the unusual toxinology, emerging patterns of substance use or complex pharmaceutical poisonings. The relatively isolated locations of some facilities can further compound these challenges.

During this session, a group of five expert clinical toxicologists, all currently active in clinical practice, will present and discuss poisoning challenging poisoning cases on behalf of TAPNA Inc. [www.tapna.org.au](http://www.tapna.org.au), the representative body for the Australasian toxicology community. Cases will be presented by a facilitator with expert commentary/input from the panel with opportunities for audience participation also.

We look forward to some interesting case discussions at the congress and the opportunity to engage with our friends from Asia and other parts of the worldwide toxicology community.