

**Name:** Katie McFadden

**Position & Affiliation:** PhD Student, The Daffodil Centre, a joint venture between The University of Sydney and Cancer Council NSW

**Full Reference:**

1. **McFadden K**, Nickel B, Houssami N, Rankin N\*, Dodd RH\*. Provider perspectives on the psychosocial impacts of lung cancer screening. Australian Society for Behavioural Health and Medicine, (2024), Adelaide.
2. **McFadden K**, Nickel B, Rankin N, Li T, Jennett CJ, Sharman A, Quaife S, Houssami N, Dodd RH. Participant factors associated with the psychosocial outcomes of lung cancer screening: a systematic review. Australian Society for Behavioural Health and Medicine, (2024), Adelaide.

\*N Rankin and RH Dodd joint senior authors.

**Conference/Meeting Name:** The Australasian Society for Behavioural Health and Medicine Annual Scientific Conference

**Location:** Adelaide, SA, Australia

**Dates:** 7-9 February 2024

**Presentation Type:** Oral presentation (x2)

**Conference Report:**

I had the pleasure of attending the Australasian Society for Behavioural Health and Medicine Annual Scientific Conference 2024 on Kurna country in Adelaide over 7-9 February. It was ASBHM's largest conference yet, with over 100 delegates and attendance and presentations from researchers across Australia, Asia, and Europe. Keynote presenters included Professor Molly Byrne from the School of Psychology in the University of Galway, Ireland; Associate Professor Amanda Rebar, Lead of Social Insights Research at CQUniversity; and Professor Deborah Turnbull, Chair in Psychology at the University of Adelaide. As well as providing insightful keynote presentations, the keynote presenters were extremely engaged in the rest of the conference, and I received multiple questions from them across my presentations.



I had the opportunity to attend a stigma-related workshop as part of the conference: "Take the pledge: an international consensus to bring an end to diabetes stigma and discrimination", chaired by Dr Elizabeth Holmes-Truscott. Being that my research is also related to stigma (as a barrier and psychological harm related to lung cancer screening), this was highly relevant for me, and I was able to connect with the researchers following their presentation to ask specific questions about my future studies.

I found the ASBHM conference to have a strong focus on theory-driven models for behaviour change in designing translational research, as well as critique of these models in delivering healthcare (i.e., there is no "one size fits all approach"). A/Prof Rebar presented innovative work in using computational modelling to support personalised healthcare, which was extremely engaging. As someone with a subject-specific background (i.e., lung cancer screening), learning about these

general and precision models of human behaviour were useful for me and my work. They are also applicable to translation and implementation of research surrounding behaviour change; for those in Sydney Cancer Partners – this is likely to be relevant to encouraging patients' engagement with prevention, screening, treatment and other health-related behaviours or interventions.

A personal highlight for me was the collegial and welcoming atmosphere of the conference. As a PhD student, it can often feel daunting to ask questions or approach people at scientific meetings, but ASBHM was set-up so that people in early career stages felt comfortable to engage.