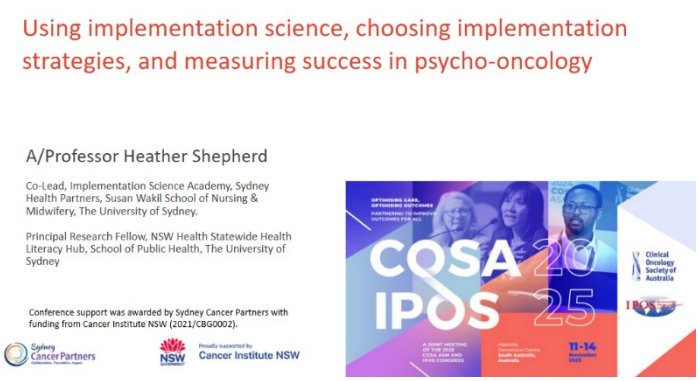
Sydney Cancer Partners for Conference Support
(Round 14, 2025)

Name: Heather Shepherd
Position & Affiliation: A/Professor, Sydney Nursing School and Sydney School of Public Health **Full Reference**: Using implementation science, choosing implementation strategies, and measuring success in psycho-oncology https://oncodaily.com/voices/cosa-ipos-409501
Conference/Meeting Name: Clinical Oncology Society of Australia (COSA) and International Psycho-Oncology Society (IPOS) joint Congress.
Location: Adelaide, 11-14 November 2025A
Dates: 11-14 November 2025
Presentation Type : Invited Keynote, Presidential Plenary



The overall takeaway was….Implementation science is essential for ensuring that effective psycho-oncology interventions reach those who need them, work in real-world settings, and are sustained over time. Using well-chosen frameworks, evidence-informed strategies, and rigorous evaluation methods enables researchers and practitioners to bridge the evidence-to-practice gap.

The 2025 Clinical Oncology Society of Australia (COSA) and International Psycho-Oncology Society (IPOS) joint Congress is a high profile national and international event for clinicians, researchers, consumers, policymakers in the field of cancer and is Australia's premier cancer meeting. The theme in 2025, was Optimising Care, Optimising Outcomes: Partnering to Improve Outcomes for All.

I was invited as a speaker at the Presidential Plenary of IPOS Congress 2025.The session was introduced by Prof Wendy Lam (IPOS President), then included Pernille Envold Bidstrup, Danish Cancer Institute: Scoping review on the implementation of psychosocial interventions in cancer survivorship. My presentation followed, A/Prof Heather Shepherd: 'Using implementation science, choosing implementation strategies, and measuring success in psycho-oncology. The Plenary concluded with a Q&A session with Pernille and I responding to the 300 strong audience.
I have presented many times in a national and international forum, but this Plenary was the first for me at an international conference, where my expertise was invited to provide a left of field insight and guide an increased focus on implementation science to an audience which was heavy with high levels of research expertise, but also heavy with emerging researchers eager to see their innovation translate to practice and better outcomes. The opportunity to share my expertise and arm the audience with new language and a new perspective and awareness of parallel programs to discovery work was powerful and I relished the opportunity to make it count.

Following the presentation and the plenary address, the buzz about implementation, and the 'thing' for research teams to identify, the message I was charged to disseminate, created a palpable buzz, both in the auditorium and in the break sessions and conference hall throughout the day. Of the many positive comments I received, this one illustrated I had pitched it right for the diverse audience...."It was once of the best sessions of the whole conference. You nailed it."