



Symposium on Health Economics

Thursday 28 February 2019

Forrest Hall, 21 Hackett Drive, Crawley

We invite you to save the date for an exciting symposium on health economics to be held on **28 February 2019**, which aims to build the local capacity and impact of health economics in research and policy.

The Forrest Foundation, Telethon Kids Institute and the West Australian Health Translation Network are co-hosting this event, which will be led by **Professor David Bloom**, an internationally acclaimed Harvard Economist who works across health, demographics, education and labour.

The demand for skills in health economics continues to rise, driven by the increasing pressure on health resources and the need for accountability, both in research and in policy. Australia now spends more than 10% of GDP on health, which is the fastest growing sector and together with the associated indirect costs and related impact on the workforce, indicates an urgent need for reform to avoid future funding crises. While cost-effectiveness is already mandated for government subsidy through Medicare and the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) it is well recognised that system inefficiencies remain which require better evidence-based policy and increased innovation to drive improved productivity. Issues throughout the sector encompass clinical care, health systems and workforce issues, health insurance and health technology assessment.

This symposium aims to strengthen and build cross-institutional links among health economists in Western Australia and to identify strategies to ensure that skills and competencies are available and accessible in the future.

In January 2019, we will send you a formal invitation with a link to register your attendance.

If you have colleagues working in the area of health economics who may be interested in this symposium, please ask them to email Emma Frost (emma.frost@telethonkids.org.au) with their contact details so we can include them on the invitation list.

We hope you will be able to join us at the symposium, and we look forward to your contribution.

Professor Paul Johnson
Forrest Research Foundation

Professor Jonathan Carapetis
Telethon Kids Institute

Professor Gary Geelhoed
WAHTN