

# WaterMicro23

21st Symposium on  
Health-related Water Microbiology

## WATER SAFETY FOR ALL REFLECTIONS AND EMERGING CONCERNS



### 4-9 JUNE 2023 SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM

The single-session Symposium program will cover all aspects of health-related water microbiology across the whole water cycle, applied and basic research on water, micro-organisms and impacts on human health. It will bring together microbiologists, researchers, policymakers, water practitioners from academia, industry, engineers, water utilities, indigenous communities, public authorities and administration to exchange the latest scientific findings, experience and know-how.

### OPEN CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The theme, “Water Safety for All” encourages reflection on the efficacy of water and sanitation safety plans, water quality guidelines, frameworks and surveillance adopted over the past 20 years. A focus on emerging concerns from climate change, environmental stress and extreme events will also feature in the programme. The theme contributes to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

**CLOSES 30 NOVEMBER 2022**



#### ABOUT

We will welcome 200 delegates from all around the world to Darwin, in Australia’s north during the beautiful dry season. The conference will be held at the waterfront Darwin Convention Centre, close to the city centre.



#### CONFERENCE ORGANISERS

The HRWM Specialist Group Symposium will be hosted by Water Research Australia (WaterRA), with Principal Partners: Power and Water Corporation and the Northern Territory Government.



#### WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Delegates will include specialists in environmental and clinical microbiology; infectious diseases epidemiology and risk assessment methodology; and water and sanitation engineering and environmental health practice.



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## Indigenous knowledge and engagement

- Cultural indicators of water health
- Co-designing water and sanitation safety plans
- Incorporating indigenous knowledge and values in water quality management

## Water safety planning – reflections and improvements

- Lessons from success
- Incorporating indigenous knowledge and values into water and sanitation safety planning
- Water quality management in emergencies, disaster situations and other extreme events
- QMRA and achieving health-based targets
- Capacity development

## Climate change impacts on water safety

- Water-sensitive cities and adapting to the changing environment
- System impacts of climate change
- Climate impacts on catchments, drinking water sources, sanitation and recreational waters

## Pathogenomics and bioinformatics

- Metagenomics
- Microbial source tracking
- Antimicrobial resistance
- Applications in QMRA

## Realising the potential of new technologies and data analytics

- Rapid point of use surveillance technologies
- Using digital platforms
- Real-time, remote sensing
- Automation of water quality information and interpretation
- Using citizen data and apps

## Evolution of wastewater-based surveillance

- Lessons learned from Covid-19 and new possibilities/applications
- Quality assurance in sampling & laboratory analyses
- What do policymakers need and when?
- Social licence for surveillance

## From research to practice

- Evidence-based policy vs policy-based evidence
- Global environmental change – emerging research needs
- Unrecognised pathogens and those of emerging concern

## Wildcard

An abstract theme we have not listed that will help to keep communities safe

