

Doherty Seminar Series

Technology and AI: How they address psychiatry's greatest challenges

Friday, 5 November 12.00 – 1.00pm

The Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity

Webinar Link:

<https://unimelb.zoom.us/j/87548425054?pwd=cWNFOFpzQkU3enVFbks0TEUxanBaUT09>

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Scientia Professor Helen Christensen (AO) is Director and Chief Scientist at the Black Dog Institute and a Professor of Mental Health at UNSW. She is Chief Investigator for the Centre for Research Excellence in Suicide Prevention, National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Elizabeth Blackman Fellow in Public Health, and previously one of only two NHMRC John Cade Research Fellows. She is also on the Million Minds panel, a government initiative that has brought together the most distinguished academics and mental health professionals to reduce the prevalence of mental illness and suicide.

Outline: Psychiatry continues to face three major challenges: (1) Prevention can work, but it is rarely implemented, and largely underfunded by Government; (2) Many people seek treatments, but find long waiting lists, with professional help being both scant and inequitable, and (3) Treatments work, but often weakly, and treatment can be hit and miss. This talk will show how technology addresses these issues in these three areas: (1) apps/websites that can deliver prevention interventions widely and cheaply; (2) new online clinics which step people through a range of online choices, or to face-to-face care; and (3) digital phenotyping and AI driven adaptive trials to improve treatment suitability and effectiveness.



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