

Introduction to Myasthenia Gravis

Webinar Program

24th NOV 2025 | 3:00–4:30PM

Chaired by A/Prof Anneke van der Walt, Alfred Health

Introduction to the OPTIMAL CRE

Prof Erica Wood, Monash University

Introduction to myasthenia gravis

Dr Mahima Kapoor, Alfred Health

**Myasthenia Alliance Australia (MAA):
Lived experience insights**

Ms Susan White & Ms Natalie Windle, MAA

Victorian myasthenia gravis data

Dr Lin Wang, Alfred Health

**VALUE-MG: A national research study for optimising the use
of IVIg therapy in people with myasthenia gravis**

Dr Yif'at Biran, Monash University

**Understanding patterns of preference through discrete
choice experiment surveys: How patients can get involved?**

Dr Laura Fanning, Monash University

Panel Q&A

Meet the Presenters



Dr Yif'at Biran is a neuroscientist and clinical research leader at Alfred Health and Monash University. Following her PhD in neuroscience, she moved from laboratory research on neurodegenerative diseases to clinical research in neurology and public health. Over the past decade she has led multi-site studies and trials with national partners. Yif'at is a member of the OPTIMAL CRE Myasthenia Gravis Working Group.



Dr Laura Fanning is a Senior Research Fellow in the Centre for Health Economics, Monash Business School and the Transfusion Research Unit, Monash University. Her work focuses on evaluating the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of blood products and patient preferences in healthcare. Laura is an investigator on the OPTIMAL CRE and a member of the CRE's Myasthenia Gravis Working Group.



Dr Mahima Kapoor is a neuromuscular and peripheral nerve neurologist, holding a Consultant Neurologist appointment at Alfred Health where she is head of the Neuromuscular Program. Mahima recently completed her PhD at Monash University, investigating the management of inflammatory neuropathies. She is also a member of the OPTIMAL CRE Myasthenia Gravis Working Group.



A/Prof Anneke van der Walt is a consultant neurologist at Alfred Health and researcher at Monash University. She is an Investigator on the OPTIMAL CRE and is Chair of the CRE's Myasthenia Gravis Working Group. She leads international research on real-world outcomes in multiple sclerosis and myasthenia gravis, with a focus on long-term treatment effectiveness.



Dr Lin Wang is a neuro-ophthalmology fellow and PhD candidate at Alfred Health and Monash University. His research includes analyses of the national MGBase registry and evaluation of hospital costs comparing immunoglobulin against other forms of management for myasthenia gravis. Lin is a member of the OPTIMAL CRE Myasthenia Gravis Working Group.



Ms Susan White leads Myasthenia Alliance Australia as Chairperson, advocating for equitable, high-quality care for people with myasthenia gravis nationwide. Drawing on many years of lived experience and a broad range of treatments, she brings practical insight to policy and practice. Susan also serves as a lived-experience representative on the OPTIMAL CRE Myasthenia Gravis Working Group.



Ms Natalie Windle is Secretary of Myasthenia Alliance Australia (MAA), coordinating advocacy, stakeholder engagement and communications to promote equitable, timely access to treatments and quality care for people with myasthenia gravis. She brings a background in policy, public affairs and communications, plus postgraduate public health training. Natalie is also a member of the OPTIMAL CRE Myasthenia Gravis Working Group.



Prof Erica Wood AO is Director of the Transfusion Research Unit at Monash University and a consultant haematologist at Monash Health. An NHMRC Leadership Fellow, she leads the NHMRC Blood Synergy program and the OPTIMAL CRE.