

USA PACIFIC CONFERENCE

NEW YORK, USA

28 DECEMBER 2025 - 4 JANUARY 2026



CPE CONFERENCES



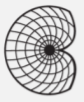
A Word from the Conference Director

Welcome to New York and to this year's CPE Conference. It is a pleasure to bring together such a diverse and accomplished group of medical, legal and professional colleagues for a program designed to broaden perspective beyond individual disciplines. Our academic agenda reflects the realities of modern professional practice—where clinical decision-making, legal frameworks, ethics, policy and global forces increasingly intersect. Over the coming days, delegates will engage with topics that range from world food security and vaccination in older populations to advances in gene therapy, alongside detailed examinations of medical negligence, expert evidence and professional accountability.

This program has been carefully curated to encourage thoughtful discussion across fields. Sessions exploring discrimination law and multiple decision-makers, developments in United States immigration law, and the protection of practitioners' reputations through recent UK Supreme Court decisions sit alongside clinically focused updates relevant to everyday practice. Together, these discussions aim to strengthen professional judgement, sharpen risk awareness, and foster meaningful dialogue between disciplines. I look forward to welcoming you to the program and to the conversations that will emerge throughout the conference.

With best regards,

Lorenzo Boccabella
Conference Director



About the Conference Director

Lorenzo Boccabella, BA, LLB(Qld); Prof Cert Arbitration(Adelaide), has been in private practice as a Barrister-at law since early 1983. I proudly developed my practice broadly, straddling public law and private law, including conducting cases in the Supreme and Federal Courts as lead counsel. In 2008 the Council of the Bar Association of Queensland permitted me to hold myself out as a specialist in migration law. In that capacity I have conducted matters as lead counsel in the High Court and Federal Courts and in the Administrative Appeals Tribunal. I continue to remain stimulated by legal practice at the bar.

“What keeps me excited about the practice of law is that I can help change people's lives.”

In 1994, I founded CPE Conferences with the aim of creating high quality conferences internationally for professionals. Since then 100's of conferences have been staged on every continent providing advanced continuing education. The conferences always cover broad subject matters including papers and talks from a range of talented international speakers. I often say expect the unexpected at these conferences. Possibly one of the most valuable aspects of these events has been the wonderful interaction between delegates from all over the world, a cross-pollination of ideas, professional practices and importantly friendships.

CPE Conferences looks forward to continuing these activities for years to come.

[linkedin/lorenzoboccabella](#)

www.lorenzoboccabella.com/home



ACADEMIC PROGRAMME

USA Pacific Conference 2025-26

28 December 2025 - 4 January 2026, New York, United States of America

Conference venue:
Penn Club 30 West 44th Street, New York City, U.S.

Sunday, December 28, 2025

Networking Day

Monday, December 29, 2025

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 13:30 – 15:30 | World Food Security
Prof Glenn Denning, Professor of Professional Practice, School of International and Public Affairs |
| 15:30 – 17:30 | Protecting the names of clinical medical practitioners in medical litigation, a case study of the UK Supreme Court decision of <i>Abbasi v Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust</i>; <i>Haastrup v King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust</i>
Mr Lorenzo Boccabella, Barrister-at-law, QLD |

Tuesday, December 30, 2025

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|---------------|---|
| 14:00 – 16:00 | A Workshop in Medical Negligence
Mr Lorenzo Boccabella, Barrister-at-law, QLD |
| 16:00 – 18:00 | A Workshop on Expert Evidence
Mr Lorenzo Boccabella, Barrister-at-law, QLD |

Wednesday December 31, 2025

Networking Day

Thursday, January 1, 2026

Networking Day

Friday, January 2, 2026

- 14:00 – 16:00 **Multiple Decision Makers in Discrimination Cases Against Companies,**
Mr Marc Felman KC, Barrister, VIC
- 16:00 – 18:00 **US Immigration Law**
Khensani Mathebula, Attorney, Laura Divine Lawyers, New York

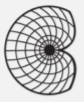
Saturday, January 3, 2026

- 08:30 – 10:30 **Vaccination in Older Persons**
Prof Paul Van Buynder, Physician, Queensland
- 10:30 – 12:30 **Rewriting Vision: Gene Therapy for Common Eye Diseases**
Prof Christopher Layton, Ophthalmologist, QLD

Sunday, January 4, 2026

Departure day





Speakers

Mr Lorenzo Boccabella

Topics: A Workshop in Medical Negligence; A Workshop on Expert Evidence; Protecting the names of clinical medical practitioners in medical litigation, a case study of the UK Supreme Court decision of *Abbasi v Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust*; *Haastrup v King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust*

Lorenzo Boccabella is a barrister-at-law specialising in administrative, medical negligence and migration law. In addition to his practice, he regularly lectures on migration law in Australia. He has a keen interest in the cross section between constitutional law, politics and current affairs. Lorenzo has written and lectured on comparative constitutional law, providing insights into the legal frameworks governing executive immunity and accountability.

Prof Paul Van Buynder

Topic: Vaccination in Older Persons

Prof Paul Van Buynder is a Public Health Physician and a past Chairman of the Australian Immunisation Coalition. He is a Professor in the School of Medicine at Griffith University in Queensland. He has held senior public health positions in a number of Australian states, in two Canadian jurisdictions and at the Centre for Infections in the United Kingdom. He has held personal appointments on sub-committees of National Immunisation Technical Advisory Committees in three continents. He is a reviewer for over 10 journals and has over 80 refereed book chapters and articles.

Prof Glenn Denning

Topic: World Food Security

Professor Glenn Denning joined SIPA in 2009 as founding Director of the Master of Public Administration in Development Practice (MPA-DP), a joint undertaking of SIPA with Columbia University's Earth Institute. He teaches core courses on Universal Food Security and Sustainable Development Policy and Practice. Professor Denning was the University of Queensland's Alumnus of the Year in 2024.



Mr Marc Felman KC

Topic: Multiple Decision Makers in Discrimination Cases Against Companies

Marc was admitted to practice in April 2000 and signed the Bar Roll in November 2004. From August 2003 until August 2004, Marc was Associate to the Honourable Justice Ryan in the Federal Court of Australia.

At the Bar, Marc's practice is primarily focused on Industrial and Employment Law, including complex underpayment claims, class actions, interpretation of industrial instruments, the making of workplace determinations, cases involved restraints of trade and breaches of confidential information obligations, and adverse action matters. Marc represents a wide range of employers in many different industries, as well as employees. Marc regularly represents the State of Victoria and the Commonwealth of Australia, as well as government departments and authorities, including the the Fair Work Ombudsman.

Marc has consistently been ranked by Doyles Guide from 2022 until 2025 as a recommended or leading senior counsel in Victoria and Australia. In 2025, he was recognised as a pre-eminent senior counsel in Victoria and a leading senior counsel in Australia.

Prof Christopher Layton

Topic: Rewriting Vision: Gene Therapy for Common Eye Diseases

Professor Christopher Layton is an Australian ophthalmologist and clinician-scientist specialising in advanced ocular surgery and translational gene therapy. He is the Clinical Director of the Layton Vision Foundation and a founder of Ocugene, an initiative developing gene-based therapies for systemic, non-genetic diseases with high unmet need in adults. His research targets conditions including macular degeneration, uveitis, and ocular melanoma, using regulated gene-delivery platforms to achieve durable disease control. Professor Layton also directs a high-volume accredited ophthalmic day procedure service in Brisbane and works closely with Australian academic and translational research institutions to advance therapies from concept to clinic.

Mr Khensani Mathebula

Topic: US Immigration Law

Khensani is an attorney with the US team in New York at Laura Devine Attorneys. She assists with a range of non-immigrant and immigrant cases.



Associated Readings

Vaccination in Older Persons

1. Schwab P, Widenmaier R, Tahrat H, et al. (2024). Recombinant zoster vaccine and reduced risk of dementia: Evidence from large-scale electronic health records. *Alzheimer's & Dementia: Public Health*, 20(S7), e088064.
2. International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers & Associations (IFPMA). (2023). *Adult immunization: A critical investment for health, equity, and economic resilience*. Geneva: IFPMA.
3. Woodward M. (2022). *Vaccination in older adults: Reducing mortality and improving quality of life*. Conference presentation, Austin Health, Melbourne.

Protecting the names of clinical medical practitioners in medical litigation, a case study of the UK Supreme Court decision of *Abbasi v Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust*; *Haastrup v King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust*

1. *Abbasi v Newcastle Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust* [2025] UKSC

Rewriting Vision: Gene Therapy for Common Eye Diseases

1. Sahel, J. A., Bennett, J., & Roska, B. (2019). Gene therapy for inherited retinal disease: Progress and remaining challenges. *Nature Reviews Neuroscience*, 20(11), 671–688.
2. Retinal gene therapy overview (open on PMC)
Bennett, J., Sahel, J. A., & Roska, B. (2023). Overview of retinal gene therapy: Current status and future directions. *Annual Review of Vision Science*. <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC10317065/>