

9th World Rett Syndrome Congress - Australia - October 2024

Following postponements in 2020 and 2022 due to the COVID19 pandemic, the 9th World Rett Syndrome Congress is set to get underway at the QT Hotel Surfers Paradise (Gold Coast), Australia, from 2nd to 5th October 2024. Organised by the Rett Syndrome Association of Australia (RSAA), in collaboration with other Rett syndrome groups and interested persons from around the world, its organisation is nearing completion.

Congress website

The first port of call when seeking information about the World Congress is the following website <https://rettworldcongress.org/>

Registration

Persons wishing to attend the Congress must register and for those aged 16 years and over, a fee applies. Fees vary according to registration category and whether or not the early bird offer is selected. Registration is **now open** and can be completed on the Congress website.

Please note that payment also covers attendance at the cocktail party (QT Hotel) and the gala dinner which will take place at Sea World.



Congress presenters and internationally invited guests are requested to defer their registration until they receive an email with additional information which will facilitate that process.

Venue - QT Hotel Gold Coast



The Congress is being held at the QT Hotel Gold Coast which is located in Staghorn Ave, Surfers Paradise. Those wishing to stay at the Hotel can book by clicking on the **“Book your stay at the QT Hotel”** tab located on the Congress website registration page. Then clicking on the **“Check rooms”** tab will bring up descriptions and photos of the hotel room types. The rates which have been discounted, only apply for the duration of the Congress.

Colleen English, a member of the RSAA Congress Organising Committee, will manage the accommodation arrangements at the QT Hotel (up to 5 nights) **for Congress presenters and internationally invited guests** during the Congress. If wanting to stay longer at the Hotel or elsewhere, they may have to make their own arrangements.

Entering Australia

The documentation required for everyone entering Australia can be found on the Australian Border Force website at <https://www.abf.gov.au/entering-and-leaving-australia/crossing-the-border/at-the-border/travel-documents>

Obtaining a visa for entry into Australia can be made using the Australian Department of Home Affairs website <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-finder/visit>

Flying to the World Congress

If flying to the Congress, planes will land at one of two airports from which one would then travel to Surfers Paradise.

Brisbane Domestic and International Airport website <https://www.bne.com.au/>

Each has its own terminal but they are a kilometre apart. Driving from the airport to Surfers Paradise will take 60 to 75 minutes. An alternative is the Airtrain, the station for which can be accessed by lift, escalator or stairs. For information about this service, particularly in regard to bookings, timetables, track closures, first and last trains, etc., see <https://www.airtrain.com.au/catch-airtrain-to/gold-coast-surfers-paradise/>

Gold Coast Airport website <https://www.goldcoastairport.com.au/>

Airlines which use this airport are international (Air Asia, Air New Zealand) and Australian (Bonza, Jetstar, Qantas, Rex Airlines and Virgin). Please note the most common method for disembarking and boarding is stairs from the tarmac, not ramps. If such access is inappropriate, the airline would need to be contacted. The drive to Surfers Paradise is 45 minutes. Multiple transport options are available on the airport's website.

Congress programme

The programme will comprise two streams, namely, preclinical/clinical and family, a broad summary of which is outlined in the **‘Agenda At-A-Glance’** item on the Congress website.

Call for abstracts

Submissions **open on 1 April** via the Congress website and **close on 31 May** with the **date of notification to authors** being **15 July**.