

NICHOLAS CHIZZONI

Clinical Psychologist (MACPA) | EMDRAA Member | Board-Approved Supervisor

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Endorsed Clinical Psychologist with over 10 years of experience in mental health, including 8 years as a registered psychologist, working across rural, remote and regional Australia in government, NGO and private settings. Clinical interests centre on the treatment of **PTSD and Complex PTSD, particularly attachment trauma**, using EMDR grounded in the Adaptive Information Processing (AIP) model, alongside an interpersonal neurobiology and psychodynamic framework.

As **Co-Director of Optimind EMDR & Psychology**, provides therapy in person and via Telehealth to clients aged 15+, conducts intensive EMDR clinics and psychometric assessments, and supervises provisional psychologists. Also serves as a Company Director of the Australian Clinical Psychology Association (ACPA), bringing experience in executive leadership and corporate governance, and is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD).

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

EMDR (AIP model) · Complex PTSD & Attachment Trauma · Schema Therapy · ACT & CBT · Psychodynamic Psychotherapy · Neurodevelopmental & Psychometric Assessment · First Nations & Culturally Responsive Practice · Rural & Remote Service Delivery · Clinical Supervision

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Co-Director – Clinical Psychologist

Feb 2026 – Present

Optimind EMDR & Psychology · Tweed Heads, NSW

- Co-direct the practice across management and operations, including clinical governance, team leadership and supervision of provisional psychologists.
- Conduct intensive EMDR clinics and psychometric assessments, and provide psychological therapy in person and via Telehealth.

Director – Psychologist

Aug 2024 – Present

ChizzPsych · Tweed Heads, NSW

- Provide Telehealth psychological intervention for clients aged 15+ using evidence-based frameworks including CBT, ACT, EMDR, Schema Therapy and Psychodynamic Psychotherapy.
- Conduct psychometric assessments via an outreach model across regional and remote locations (Weipa, Mt Isa, Cairns and Broken Hill).

Subcontracting Psychologist

Jul 2025 – Present

Northern Queensland Primary Health Network · Georgetown, QLD

- Deliver psychological services under a Federally funded block-funding initiative to underserved remote communities (Mt Garnet, Croydon, Georgetown) within a multidisciplinary contract.

Consultant Psychologist

May 2024 – Present

Ngak Min Health (Djarragun College) · Gordonvale, QLD

- Deliver culturally appropriate psychometric assessment and neurodevelopmental screening for First Nations students.

Director

Feb 2022 – Aug 2024

Far North Kids · Cairns, QLD

- Owned and directed a profitable Cairns CBD psychology practice servicing children, adolescents and adults, including outreach clinics to Weipa and Mt Isa.
- Delivered assessment services to Ngak Min Health and Djarragun College and built partnerships with government and allied health networks.

Psychologist

Mar 2020 – May 2021

Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia · Broken Hill, NSW

- Provided psychological intervention and psychometric assessment (WAIS-IV, ABAS-3, PAI, WISC-V, WMS) across remote clinics and stations, and piloted 'Mindbox', a 6-week CBT group for men.

Psychologist (Placement Externship)

Jan 2023 – Sep 2023

headspace, Cairns

- Contracting psychologist during Master of Clinical Psychology (Advanced Entry) placement at what was then the busiest headspace centre nationally.

Earlier clinical roles

2015 – 2022

NSW Health (CAMHS) · Cairns & Hinterland HHS (CYMHS) · headspace · UnitingCare Community

- Progressive psychology and mental health roles across child, family and community services in regional NSW and QLD, including biopsychosocial assessment, risk assessment, psychometric testing and crisis intervention.

EDUCATION

Master of Clinical Psychology (Advanced Entry)

2022 – 2023

University of Southern Queensland

Psychology Honours

2015 – 2016

University of the Sunshine Coast

Bachelor of Social Science (Psychology)

2012 – 2014

University of the Sunshine Coast

PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS & MEMBERSHIPS

- AHPRA Registered Psychologist with Clinical Endorsement
- Board-Approved Supervisor (PSYBA Board-Approved Supervisor Training, Murtupini Centre of Rural & Remote Health, James Cook University, Sep to Dec 2024)
- Full Member (MACPA) and Company Director, Australian Clinical Psychology Association (ACPA)
- Member, EMDR Association of Australia (EMDRAA)
- Member, Australasian ADHD Professionals Association (AADPA)
- Member, Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD)

TRAINING & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Therapeutic & Intervention Training

- EMDR Weekend 1 & 2 (EMDR Training Australia and New Zealand)
- EMDR 2.0 (Ad De Jongh & Suzy Matthijssen)
- EMDR for Personality Disorders (Ad De Jongh & Suzy Matthijssen)
- EMDR for Attachment Trauma (Caroline Burrows, EMDRAA Consultant)
- Relational Integrative EMDR Part 1 (Michele Bowes & Amy English, EMDRAA Consultants)
- EMDR Level 2 for Children & Adolescents (Dr Sarah Schubert)
- EMDR and Complex Trauma (Thomas Zimmerman)
- Schema Therapy Levels 1 & 2 (Dr Rob Brockman, Schema Therapy Australia)
- Treating PTSD and Complex PTSD (Dr Leah Giarratano)
- RELATE: 12-month relational psychodynamic training (Professor Robert Schweitzer)
- Treating Chronically Traumatized Children (Arianne Struik)
- ACT Made Simple (Dr Russ Harris)
- International Childhood Trauma Conference (Attendee, 2016 & 2025)
- 2024 APS College of Clinical Psychologists Conference

Assessment Training

- Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule, 2nd Edition (ADOS-2) Assessor Training (Mindful Centre, University of Melbourne)
- Autism Diagnostic Interview (ADI-R) Training (Dr Anne Chalfant)
- Monteiro Interview Guidelines for Diagnosing Autism (MIGDAS-2) Training (Marilyn Monteiro)
- Personality Assessment Inventory (PAI) Training (Dr Phil Watts)
- Assessing Lying and Malingering (Dr Phil Watts)
- Symptom Validity Assessments in Clinical and Forensic Practice (Dr Grant Blake, Prof Luciano Giromini & Prof Martin Sellbom)
- Investigative Interviewing, Adult & Children Courses (Griffith University)