Vanessa McDonald is a Professor of Nursing in the School of Nursing and Midwifery at the University of Newcastle, Australia and an honorary clinical nurse consultant in the Department of Respiratory and Sleep Medicine at John Hunter Hospital. She is Director of the Centre of Excellence in Treatable Traits, and the Hunter Medical Research Institute's Asthma and Breathing Programme.

Her research interests are centred around the development of innovative approaches to the management of chronic airway diseases. She is passionate about the development and implementation of personalised medicine strategies that place the person at the centre of health care delivery.

Over >25 years Vanessa has developed expertise in respiratory clinical nursing practice and education, has contributed extensively to respiratory health advocacy and health policy and, has developed as an internationally recognised respiratory researcher. She is committed to committed to improving the health and quality of life of people with lung disease in our region and internationally, and to the mission of lung health.