



A N Z G O S A

Australia & New Zealand
Gastric & Oesophageal
Surgery Association

Presidents Report

Issue 10

December 2010

President's Report

As I take the reins from David Watson I reflect on the four years that David led the Australian and New Zealand Gastric and Oesophageal Surgeons Association. In a climate of specialisation in all aspects of surgery in Australia and internationally, the time was right for us to move to create this Association. Since we started we have tried to represent those surgeons who have specialised in this area as well as General Surgeons who have an interest in Upper Gastro-Intestinal pathology.

We now have a robust programme of matching young surgeons who wish to have extra training in Upper GI surgery, with available positions in Australia and New Zealand. The Executive aims to assess all the units who take on the responsibility of providing this extra training. We provide specialised CME events each year with the continuation of the biennial International Society of Diseases of the Esophagus (IsDEAS) meeting that was developed by Glyn Jamieson as well as an annual ANZGOSA scientific meeting – more on that later. We have also become a source for advice and guidance to Associations that seek specialist opinions.

As we move forward, the Executive is aware that we represent a diverse group of surgeons from General Surgeons with a general GI interest through to those whose practice is restricted to Oesophago-Gastric

Surgery. There will be issues to address surrounding credentialing, obesity surgery and training. The presence of ANZGOSA as a representative group in these issues will be important.

Next year, we start the year with the IsDEAS meeting in Hobart in February. That is only seven weeks away! I encourage you to register and enjoy a relaxed environment that will allow much discussion about the topics presented. If you have interesting videos or short case presentations please contact Rob Bohmer or Leanne Rogers, our Executive Officer.

In August, we will be hosting the Fellows training weekend which involves the ANZGOSA and ANZHPBA trainees. Later that week we will be associated with the Australian and New Zealand Gastro-intestinal Trials Group (AGITG) and will have one day of combined activities with a malignant disease focus and then followed by a day focussed on benign disease.

Finally, I wish to take this opportunity to thank David Watson for his wonderful efforts in getting all of this started and then ensuring we become a robust group with a definite future. I also wish to thank our other members of the Board who have given their time and energy. We would not function without the support and boundless energy of Leanne Rogers – thank you Leanne!

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a safe successful 2011.

Associate Professor Mark Smithers

President

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Future Dates

2011

February 18 and 19

IsDEAS meeting

The Henry Jones Art Hotel, Hobart, Tasmania

August 19 -21

Post Fellowship Trainees' Weekend

Mantra on the Park, Kingscliff, Tweed Coast NSW

<http://www.mantraonsaltbeach.com.au/>

August 25 - 27

AGITG with ANZGOSA

Joint day Friday August 26th, ANZGOSA day Saturday August 27th

Melbourne Hilton on the Park

27 – 30 September

Asia Pacific HPBA Congress

Melbourne Convention Centre



Secretariat

Please feel free to contact our Executive Officer, Leanne Rogers, should you have any queries.

Contact details are: 08 8278 1249 (phone), 08 8278 1249 (fax), or, anzgosa@gmail.com.

Postal address:

P.O. Box 374, Belair S.A. 5052

ANZGOSA Members

We welcome all our new members –

Dr Gary Yee
Dr Atul Dhabuwala
Mr Patrick Moore
Mr Lachlan Dandie
Dr Steven Leibman
Dr Adhilash Chandra
Mr Zdenek Dubrava
Dr Arthur Richardson
Prof David Gotley
Mrs Bronwyn Jones
Dr Vytauras Kuzinkovas

Financial Report

A full financial report and Treasurers' report was emailed to all members after the AGM on Wednesday 29th September, for the year ended 30th June.

ANZGOSA continues to be in a strong financial position. Industry Partners are secured in three year contracts and membership numbers continue to grow steadily.

We have now received deductible gift recipient "DGR" status through the Australian Taxation Office. The Association can now accept donations.



Membership

Membership numbers are steadily growing with a membership now around 140. Full membership is available for Medical practitioners with an interest in Upper Gastrointestinal, Gastric and/or Oesophageal surgery practice who hold FRACS or equivalent. Full members are entitled to full voting rights, and may stand for office. Associate membership is available to trainees or retired Upper Gastrointestinal surgeons, and other health professionals working in the area of Upper Gastrointestinal, Gastric and/or Oesophageal practice. Associate members do not have voting rights, and are unable to stand for office. A discount on membership fees is available to members who are also members of ANZHPBA. Please contact the Secretariat for an application for membership.



Website

www.anzgos.org

We do have the "Find a Surgeon" section on the website. The aim of this is to have most of our ANZGOSA members listed.

If you would like to be included could you please email me the following information -

SURNAME
FIRST NAME (and title)
LOCATION
PHONE
WEBSITE.



We are happy to hear of any suggested improvements to the website

NEWS

Post Fellowship Training in Upper GI Surgery 2012

Applications are invited from eligible Post Fellowship Trainees for training in Upper GI Surgery.

ANZGOSA's Post Fellowship Training Program is for Upper GI surgeons. The program consists of two years education and training following completion of a general surgery fellowship. A portion of the program will include clinical research. A successful Fellowship in Upper GI surgery will involve satisfactory completion of the curriculum requirements, completion of research requirements, minimum of twenty four months clinical training, successful case load achievement, and assessment. Successful applicants will be assigned to an accredited hospital unit.

For further information please contact the Executive Officer at anzgosa@gmail.com

Applicants should submit a CV, an outline of career plans and nominate four references, one must be Head of Unit, (with email addresses and mobile phone numbers), to Leanne Rogers, Executive Officer ANZGOSA, P.O. Box 374, Belair S.A. 5052, or email anzgosa@gmail.com.

Applicants will need to be able to attend interviews which will be held on Monday May 2nd, during the ASC in Adelaide.

Applications close 5pm, Friday March 25th 2011.

ANZGOSA Hospital Unit Accreditation

I invite you to apply for ANZGOSA board recognition as a training centre.

The ANZGOSA Post Fellowship Training manual can be found on the ANZGOSA website. This document outlines the requirement to become a Upper GI training centre. .

Advertisements for potential 2012 Fellows will be placed in the February Surgical News and the ANZGOSA website. Interviews and ranking of Fellows will occur during the ASC in Adelaide, May 2011. A matching process, taking into account Fellows preferences and unit requirements, will then take place. Ultimately accepting a Fellow will be at the discretion of the training unit.

Hospital Unit site inspections will occur once you receive a Fellow and Fellow offers will occur from May - June 2011.

Please note that if a training unit requires accreditation for both HPB and Upper GI then separate applications will need to be made to both ANZHPBA and ANZGOSA.

Could each unit applying please submit a letter addressing each Hospital Unit criteria (as in the attached document pages 14 -17) and nominate a future programme director (with contact details). All future communications will be to that director.

Applications close on March 25th, 2011 and should be either emailed or posted to:

Leanne Rogers
Executive Officer ANZGOSA
P.O. Box 374
Belair SA 5052

anzgosa@gmail.com

Queenstown Conference

The “Conjoint ANZ Upper GI and HPB Meeting” meeting held September 28 and 29 was very successful, with total registrations around 170. Each day consisted of four sessions. Day one had separate sessions for ANZHPBA and ANZGOSA, and, Day two was combined sessions. The scientific committee put together a comprehensive and balanced academic programme. Very positive feedback has been received and both ANZHPBA and ANZGOSA were very pleased with the success of our first joint meeting and first meeting in New Zealand.

Post Fellowship Trainees Weekend

The 2010 Post Fellowship Trainees’ Weekend was hosted this year by ANZHPBA at The Sebel Heritage Resort, Yarra Valley, November 5 to 7. The weekend was a great success with positive comments received by all who attended. The weekend was made up of presentations, debates, and social events. We once again thank Johnson and Johnson, and Covidien, for their Industry support.

All 2010 and 2011 ANZHPBA and ANZGOSA Fellows were invited to attend. As part of the two year Fellowship they are required to attend the Post Fellowship Trainees Weekend. A significant local faculty attended, as well as international visitor Professor Paul Greig from Toronto, who all provided very positive feedback and contribution.

We were very pleased with the outcome of this event and next years Weekend, hosted by ANZGOSA, should prove to be a very worthwhile weekend to attend.



IsDEAS Meeting February 17 – 19, 2011

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

The 2011 IsDEAS meeting is being held at the Henry Jones Art Hotel in Hobart, Australia's first and only dedicated art Hotel. <http://www.thehenryjones.com/> This previously well attended meeting is the **2011 annual meeting for ANZGOSA**. *Please see full program at end of newsletter*

Traditionally, the IsDEAS meeting has a comprehensive program which focuses on oesophageal disease and it is well supported by Australian and New Zealand Upper gastrointestinal surgeons. The meeting is held in a less formal and residential environment. The meeting is held in such a forum so that topics can be discussed that are not normally dealt with in larger forums. The scientific programme committee has put together a comprehensive programme. The meeting will follow a similar format of 2007 and 2009. Both Thursday night and Friday night dinners are included in the registration cost.

Registration fee of \$440 includes –

- Thursday evening Welcome Dinner
- Friday evening Conference Dinner
- Friday and Saturday meeting



New Board Member

We welcome new Board Member Wendy Brown from Victoria. We look forward to Wendy's contribution to ANZGOSA over the next three years.

Post Fellowship Training in Upper GI Surgery 2011

We congratulate our successful appointment to the ANZGOSA Post Fellowship Training Programme for 2011 –

James Askew to Christchurch Hospital

On behalf of the ANZGOSA Board, we congratulate and welcome James to our programme and look forward to a successful two years associated with ANZGOSA.

Merry Christmas

The ANZGOSA Board would like to wish all our members and their families a very merry Christmas and happy new year for 2011.



ANZGOSA Audit

Reminder - ANZGOSA Audit now up and running

To further our aim of improving the surgical management of diseases of the stomach, oesophagus and upper gastrointestinal tract, the Australia and New Zealand Gastric and Oesophageal Surgery Association (ANZGOSA) has launched a bi-national audit of surgical cancer treatment for its members. The ANZGOSA Audit was officially launched on August 31 2010 through an online portal which can be accessed via the ANZGOSA website: www.anzgosa.org . As a practising member of the Association, we would like to invite and encourage you to participate.

Participating in the audit demonstrates both an appreciation of the importance of quality surgical care in this area and a commitment to achieving such quality. Participation will be acknowledged on the ANZGOSA website and participants will receive an annual participation certificate.

Through the reporting feature of the data entry portal, currently under development, surgeons will have access to instant reporting on key areas against aggregated peer results and be able extract their own data for personal analyses. Audit staff will also be able to provide customised analyses if requested.

Collated bi-national data will provide the ANZGOSA opportunities for research into surgical treatment in the two countries. The precise details of this research are yet to be determined but will not identify either surgeons or patients. Participants can also make an official data request to gain de-identified information from the database for their own research.

The audit is being conducted on behalf of the ANZGOSA by the Research, Audit and Academic Surgery Division of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons. College Ethics Committee approval was granted in June 2010 and an application has been made to recognise the audit as an approved activity so that participants can use this to claim points in the College Continuing Professional Development program.

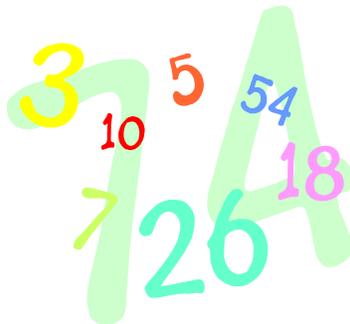
Protection as a Quality Assurance Activity has already been applied for under the relevant legislation in Australia and New Zealand. Being declared a quality assurance activity gives individual surgeons protection from having their data and/or any comparative analysis subpoenaed from the audit.

For further information or to become part of this exciting initiative and gain access to the online portal, please contact the College managers of the audit:

Ph: +61 8 8363 7513

Audit helpdesk: anzgosa.audit@surgeons.org

Upon joining the audit, you will be issued with a user manual and data dictionary, as well as a copy of the audit patient information sheet.



ISDEAS PROGRAM

Friday 18th February

0900-1030 Endoscopic management of early oesophageal cancer
Chair Mark Smithers

0900-0915 Endoscopic ultrasound for oesophageal cancer – does it really change clinical decision making?

Justin Bessell

0915-0930 High grade dysplasia and intra-mucosal cancer – the case for surgery

Sarah Thompson

0930-0945 Quality of life after oesophagectomy for high grade dysplasia and intra-mucosal cancer

Andrew Macdonald

0945-1000 Is endoscopic mucosal resection the best treatment for high grade dysplasia or intramucosal oesophageal cancer?

Tim Bright

1000-1015 RFA for high grade dysplasia and intramucosal oesophageal cancer – is this the best option?

Reg Lord

1015-1030 Panel discussion

1030 – 1100 Morning Tea

1100-1230 Functional problems after antireflux surgery
Chair David Gotley

1100-1115 Before the operation I had reflux, now I can't swallow!

George Kiroff

1115-1130 Reflux after gastric banding – is it a problem?

Paul Burton

1130-1145 My reflux is back, and a surgeon operated on me 3 months ago! What next?

Wendy Brown

1145-1200 Last year I had a fundoplication. The gastroenterologist told me that my stomach is now in my chest. What should I do?

Garrett Smith

1200-1215 The Vagi and hiatus hernia repair – how I cut them and does it matter?

Peter Stiven

1215-1230 Panel discussion

1230 – 1330 Lunch

1330-1500 Free paper session
Chair Rob Bohmer

Free paper session from submitted abstracts

1500 – 1530 Afternoon Tea

1530-1700	Clinical trials – updates and future directions Chair Ahmad Aly
1530-1550	Dilemmas, Unanswered questions and lost opportunities in Upper GI Surgery David Gotley
1550-1610	Update on outcomes of IsDEAS trials (anterior 90 vs Nissen, Mesh vs no-mesh for repair of large hiatus hernia etc) David Watson
1610-1630	Oesophageal Cancer trials – new trials and new opportunities Andrew Barbour
1630-1650	Gastric Cancer trials Mark Smithers
1650-1710	Immunonutrition in Upper GI Cancer surgery Glyn Jamieson
1710-1730	Discussion with panel and “floor” – future collaborative trials
1830 -	<i>Bus departs for The Source Restaurant, Moorilla Estate</i>

Saturday 19th February

0900-1030	Clinical dilemmas, recurrent symptoms and other issues Chair Ross Roberts, Ahmad Aly
0900-0920	Recurrent symptoms after surgery for achalasia – What do I do? Glyn Jamieson
0920-1100	Functional problems after oesophagectomy - 3 cases Reflux Dumping Delayed gastric emptying Panel – David Gotley, Glyn Jamieson, Gary Crosthwaite, Simon Woods
1100 – 1130	<i>Morning Tea</i>
1130-1300	Chair Simon Woods Presentations for the Great Cockerel Award, and other interesting vignettes
1300	<i>Lunch</i>

Industry Partner Pages

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