



ANZGOSA

Australia & New Zealand
Gastric & Oesophageal
Surgery Association

Presidents Report

Issue 13

December 2011

President's Report

We have had a great year with the always popular IsDEA meeting in Hobart and the combined ANZGOSA / AGITG meeting in Melbourne. Both were very successful. The Melbourne meeting followed the combined ANZGOSA / ANZHPBA trainees' weekend in Kingscliffe, NSW. Thanks to the commitment of the trainees, the faculty and notably Professor Derek Alderson, this was an outstanding success. This event will be hosted by ANZHPBA next year.

This year we have had our first group of trainees finish the two year Fellowship. The executive join me in wishing these surgeons every success in the future and look forward to a long association with ANZGOSA. Along with the strong training positions we have in Australia and New Zealand, we are developing strong relationships with centres in the UK so that we will be able to have our trainees spend time in those units in the future. We will be selecting the first of these rotations in 2012 for 2013.

The ANZGOSA Gastro-oesophageal cancer and GIST audit continues to be a major focus for the executive and our members. With the support of the RACS audit unit, our Audit committee continues to work towards improving the benefits of this facility for the members. I recommend members look at the audit. As a group we have the opportunity to assess national data for these low incidence malignancies. I am sure all members will

be involved with GIST. This audit has the potential to provide good data at a National level in both of our countries relating to the management of this disease.

Next year our major conference will be a combined meeting with the Sydney Upper GI Surgeons (SUGGS) in Sydney at the beginning of September. There will be two overseas visitors. We plan to ensure the educational aspects of this conference will be valuable to all our members.

The executive welcomes Sarah Thompson and Tim Bright on to the executive. I would also like to once again acknowledge the time, efforts and commitment of David Watson, Past President, during the genesis and development of ANZGOSA. David now has moved off the executive. Ross Roberts, chair of the training committee, has been elected to the position of Vice President.

We would not be able to continue with our many activities without the support of industry. I wish to acknowledge Covidien, Applied Medical, Johnson and Johnson and Allergan for their commitment. I have already mentioned Novartis and their support of our Audit.

I want to acknowledge the support and commitment of the Executive and in particular acknowledge Leanne Rogers, our executive officer, without whom we would be lost.

Finally, the Executive joins me in wishing you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas and a safe, healthy and successful New Year. I look to foreseeing you in 2012.

Associate Professor Mark Smithers

President

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Future Dates

2012

August 31 – September 2
ANZGOSA / SUGGS Joint conference
Sydney NSW

November 3 – 7
ANZHPBA Annual Meeting
Hyatt Regency, Coolum

2013

February IsDEAS Meeting
Victoria



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 –

Mr Adam Cichowitz
Mr Mouhammed Ballal
Dr William Braun
Dr David Links
Dt Inian Samarasam
Dr Chung Kwun Won
Dr Naif Alenazi

Financial Report

A full financial report and Treasurers' report was provided, and emailed, to all members at the AGM on Saturday 27th August, for the year ended 30th June 2011.

ANZGOSA continues to be in a good position. Three 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 Renewals

FINAL notice for still outstanding ANZGOSA membership renewals for the period 1st July – 30th June.

Membership Fees are (as follows) -

Full Membership \$250
Associate Membership \$125

Member of both ANZGOSA and ANZHPBA adjusted fee -

Full membership \$200
Associate membership \$100

Membership

Membership numbers are steadily growing with a membership now around 158. 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

ANZGOSA Hospital Unit Accreditation

We 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 an Upper GI training centre. .

Advertisements for potential 2013 Fellows will be placed in the 2012 February Surgical News and the ANZGOSA website. Interviews and ranking of Fellows will occur early June 2012. A matching process, taking in to 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 occur from late June.

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 (available on website) and nominate a future programme director (with contact details). All future communications will be to that director.

Applications should be either emailed or posted to:

Leanne Rogers
Executive Officer ANZGOSA
P.O. Box 374
Belair SA 5052
anzgosa@gmail.com

Post Fellowship Trainees Weekend

The 2011 Post Fellowship Trainees' Weekend was hosted this year by ANZGOSA at Mantra on Salt Beach, Kingscliff NSW, August 19 - 21. The weekend was exclusively sponsored by **Covidien**, and we thank Covidien for their Industry support.



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The weekend was a great success with positive comments received by all who attended. The weekend was made up of presentations, debate, and social events.

All 2011 ANZHPBA and ANZGOSA Fellows attended. 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 Derek Alderson, Barling Professor of Surgery in Birmingham, who all provided very positive feedback and contribution.

New to the weekend this year was a "Meet the Professor" session. In an informal atmosphere, this was the opportunity for Fellows to speak with a senior colleague with an international reputation about all aspects of a surgical career in Foregut Surgery. This session received very positive feedback.

We were very pleased with the outcome of this event and next year's Weekend, hosted by ANZHPBA, should prove to be again a very worthwhile weekend to attend.



ANZGOSA / SUGGS Meeting

We have a great opportunity to provide an educational programme for the members of ANZGOSA.

ANZGOSA will have a combined meeting with SUGGS (Sydney Upper GI Society) focused on the management of oesophago-gastric conditions. The preliminary dates for the conference is Friday 31st August to Sunday 2nd September, 2012. The meeting is planned for 2 ½ days and we are currently looking at venues in Sydney.

We hope to have a preliminary programme early in 2012.

New Board Members

We welcome new Board Members Tim Bright and Sarah Thompson from South Australia. We look forward to their contribution to ANZGOSA over the next three years.

New Vice President

We congratulate Board Member Ross Roberts on his appointment to Vice President of the ANZGOSA Board.

ANZGOSA Audit

REMINDER

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 to 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.



Post Fellowship Training in Upper GI Surgery 2013

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 early June 2012 in Melbourne.

Applications close 5pm, Friday March 23rd 2012.

Merry Christmas

The ANZGOSA Board would like to wish all our members and their families a very merry Christmas and happy new year for 2012.



Industry Partner Pages

Major Industry Partners



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Industry Partners



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