



A N Z G O S A

Australia & New Zealand  
Gastric & Oesophageal  
Surgery Association

# Presidents Report

Issue 12

July 2011

## **President's Report**

Over the past few months we have been involved in the selection process and matching of Fellows to training posts. In behalf of the executive I congratulate those who have been appointed and look forward to a long association with these surgeons now and into the future. The outcomes of this process are outlined in the newsletter. The executive is also exploring ways of creating liaisons with overseas units that may be beneficial with respect to continued training experiences.

The ANZGOSA audit is a major focus of our group. With the assistance of the RACS this will be a very useful tool for all of our members. The audit deals with gastro-oesophageal malignancy as well as GIST. Given the low incidence of these tumours in our countries, aside from the personal benefits to individuals, the audit has the potential to be a significant tool in assessing management and outcomes in the short and long term. The ability to access the audit is evolving to make this easier for individuals and also unit data managers. The commitment of Garrett Smith and the audit committee is a major reason for us getting to this point. However it would not have been possible without the support from Novartis which has enabled maintenance and improvements of the audit.

Our next events are the ANZGOSA / ANZHPBA trainees weekend followed by the combined ANZGOSA / AGITG meeting in August. I encourage you to consider attending the combined AGITG/ANZGOSA meeting on the Friday. There will be the opportunity to be involved in multidisciplinary discussions relating to Upper GI malignancy. Professor Derek Alderson is known to many of you, and is a highly respected Upper GI surgeon from the UK. He will be an outstanding visitor both for the surgeons and on the combined day with our oncology colleagues. The Saturday (August 27) is the ANZGOSA day and the aim is for this to be informal with presentations highlighting neuroendocrine tumours, who should treat gastric cancer, technical aspects of Upper GI surgery and upper GI stricture management.

Finally, as ANZGOSA moves forward there are challenges ahead of us. To reach this point in our existence we have had great support from our major industry partners: Covidien, Johnson and Johnson Medical, and, Applied Medical. In the future we will have to find ways of ensuring our solvency by reducing the dependence on industry. Firstly, as we aim to be an independent organisation we need to explore other avenues to maintain financial viability but also our industry partners now operate under very strict compliance laws which may impact on the degree of support they can offer.

Hopefully I will see many of you at the ANZGOSA/ AGITG meeting in August.

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*Associate Professor Mark Smithers*

*President*

## **Future Dates**

### **2011**

August 19 -21

Post Fellowship Trainees' Weekend  
Mantra on the Park, Kingscliff, Tweed Coast NSW  
<http://www.mantraonsaltbeach.com.au/>

August 26 - 27

AGITG with ANZGOSA  
Joint day Friday August 26<sup>th</sup>, ANZGOSA day Saturday August 27<sup>th</sup>  
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](mailto:anzgosa@gmail.com).

Postal address:

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

## **ANZGOSA Members**

We welcome all our new members –

Mr James Askew  
Mr Paul Cashin  
Dr Matthew Leong  
Dr Charbel Sandroussi  
Dr Christos Apostolou  
Dr Nigel Peck  
Dr Jacqueline Slater  
Mr Adrian Fox  
Dr John Ozmen  
Dr Chek Heng Tog  
Dr Damien Loh

## **Financial Report**

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

ANZGOSA continues to be in a good 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 Renewals**

ANZGOSA membership renewals for the period 1<sup>st</sup> July – 30<sup>th</sup> June are now due.

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 155. 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](http://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**

We congratulate our successful appointments to the ANZGOSA Post Fellowship Training Programme for 2012 –

David Links to Prince of Wales Hospital  
Adam Cichowitz to The Alfred Hospital  
Chek Heng Tog to John Hunter Hospital  
John Ozmen to St Vincents Hospital  
Damien Loh to Geelong Hospital

On behalf of the ANZGOSA Board, we congratulate and welcome these five surgeons to our programme and look forward to a successful two years associated with ANZGOSA. We look forward to working with our accredited hospitals and fellows in ensuring the quality of Upper GI surgery in Australia and New Zealand.

We would also like to congratulate our current ANZGOSA Fellows on the following placements for 2012 -

Mouhannad Jaber to Box Hill Hospital  
Sebastian Kwon – overseas placement  
Philip Le Page to Concord Hospital  
Gary Yee to St George Hospital  
James Askew to Austin Hospital

## **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 during the last week in May 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 May - 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 (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 should be either emailed or posted to:

Leanne Rogers  
Executive Officer ANZGOSA  
P.O. Box 374  
Belair SA 5052  
[anzgosa@gmail.com](mailto:anzgosa@gmail.com)

## **Post Fellowship Trainees Weekend**

The 2011 Post Fellowship Trainees' Weekend is being hosted this year by ANZGOSA at Mantra on Salt Beach, Kingscliff NSW, August 19 - 21. The weekend has exclusive Industry support from **Covidien**.



2011 ANZHPBA and ANZGOSA Fellows are invited to attend. As part of the two year Fellowship they are required to attend the Post Fellowship Trainees Weekend. The weekend will follow a similar format of 2008, 2009, and 2010, and have significant local faculty and international visitor Professor Derek Alderson, from Birmingham UK.

Fellows will also have a face to face progress interviews with their Post Fellowship group to discuss how their appointment is going. Each Fellow will receive one presentation topic focused on their specialty, HPB or GI.

Faculty attending the weekend include –

### **ANZGOSA**

Mark Smithers (President)

Jon Gani

Leigh Rutherford

Michael Rodgers

### **ANZHPBA**

Nick O'Rourke

Michael Crawford

Chris Christophi

### **CONVENOR**

Ross Roberts

### **INTERNATIONAL FACULTY**

Professor Derek Alderson, Barling Professor of Surgery in Birmingham

New to the weekend this year is a "Meet the Professor" session. In an informal atmosphere, this is 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 includes issues such as work / life balance, the role of academic involvement or not, Surgery in the UK (Derek is on the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England), how to get published (Senior Editor - British Journal of Surgery) and anything else that they may think relevant



## **ANZGOSA / AGITG Meeting**

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

We have linked with the Australasian Gastro-intestinal Trials Group (AGITG) to bring Professor Derek Alderson to Australia to attend the AGITG Annual scientific meeting. Derek Alderson is the Barling Professor of Surgery and Head of the surgical unit at the University of Birmingham. He holds an honorary appointment as a consultant surgeon with University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust based at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. Before moving to Birmingham in 2005, he was Professor of Gastrointestinal Surgery and Head of Teaching in the Department of Clinical Sciences at South Bristol. He has held Visiting Professorships at the Universities of Edinburgh, Adelaide and Cape Town

He has held a variety of managerial and executive appointments locally and nationally including: Senior Tutor responsible for professional behaviour within the College of Medical and Dental Sciences, Clinical Director for Surgery at United Bristol Healthcare Trust, Programme Director for surgical training in the South West region (Chairman of the Oesophago-gastric sub-group of the National Cancer Research Institute) and President of the Association of Upper Gastrointestinal Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland from 2000– 2002. He is currently a Member of Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, a Member of Council of the Medical Defence Union, Non-executive director of Sandwell and West Birmingham NHS Trust, a General Surgery Expert member of UK Advisory Panel for Healthcare Workers infected with blood borne viruses, and Joint Editor in Chief of the British Journal of Surgery.

He qualified from the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne and trained in the Northern Region and in the United States of America. His research interests lie in the field of oesophago-gastric surgery and particularly upper gastrointestinal cancers. This has included extensive laboratory work related to tumour suppressor genes, growth factors, mechanisms of invasion and most recently, tumour metabolomics. He has published widely on clinical topics particularly related to tumour staging by endoscopic ultrasonography and laparoscopy as well as quality of life assessments. He is currently the principal surgical investigator for two multi-centre trials in the UK involving surgery and chemotherapy in patients with oesophageal and gastric cancers.

Professor Alderson is committed to improving surgical standards at all levels through education, research and clinical performance. Outside work his hobbies include diving, walking and wine, depending upon temperature, location and time of day.

[ANZGOSA will have a combined day with AGITG focused on the management of Upper GI cancer on Friday August 26. On Saturday August 27, we will have a one day programme dealing with other problems relating to the Upper GI region.](#) The AGITG meeting runs from August 24 - 26 and is being organised by that group. The "stand alone" component for ANZGOSA on Saturday August 27 will be at the same venue, the Hilton on the Park, Melbourne.

**Registration is now open.** <http://www.asnevents.com.au/agitg/> Registration options are now available for these two days, for the full conference plus the Saturday or a single day.

**Mark Smithers has put together a comprehensive program which will be of great interest to the members of ANZGOSA. The Saturday meeting will be an informal setting with plenty of time for discussion**

***Please register NOW.***

<b>ANZGOSA Registration Type</b>	<b>Rate</b>
One Day Member (Sat only)	\$280
One Day Non Member (Sat only)	\$305
Two Day Member (Fri and Sat)	\$500
Two Day Non Member (Fri and Sat)	\$600

Joint registration

<b>Joint Registration</b> (AGITG 3 days + ANZGOSA Saturday)	<b>Early bird</b> (May 6th 2011)	<b>Rate</b>
ANZGOSA Member	\$980	\$1090
ANZGOSA Non Member	\$1005	\$1115

### **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> August AGITG / ANZGOSA Day**

- 0700 – 1630 Registration**  
*Venue:* Ballroom Foyer
- 0800 – 0900 Meet the Professor Breakfast sponsored by Novartis Oncology**  
**Chair:**  
*Venue:* Ballroom 3  
0800 - 0850 **International Speaker:** Dr Heikki Joensuu  
University of Helsinki  
**Presentation:** Topic to be announced.  
0850 – 0900 Questions
- 0900 – 1030 AGITG Plenary**  
**Co-Chairs:**  
*Venue:* Ballroom 3  
0900 – 0945 **International Surgical Speaker:** Prof Derek Alderson  
University of Birmingham  
**Presentation:** Neoadjuvant trials for oesophagogastric cancer in Europe
- 0945 – 1030 **International Radiation Oncology Speaker:** Prof Arthur William Blackstock  
Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center, Comprehensive Cancer Centre, Winston-Salem,  
North Carolina  
**Presentation:**
- 1030 – 1100 Morning Tea sponsored by Novartis Oncology**  
*Venue:* Ballroom Foyer & Upper Foyer
- 1100 – 1300 Upper GI Trials**  
**Co-Chairs:**  
*Venue:* Ballroom 3
- 1100 – 1115 DOCTOR Study Prof Andrew Barbour
- 1115 – 1130 TOP GEAR Study Dr Trevor Leong
- 1130 – 1145 ATTAX 3 Study Dr Niall Tebbutt
- 1145 – 1200 GAP Study Dr Andrew Barbour
- 1215 – 1230 PAN1 Study Dr Yu Jo Chua
- 1230 – 1245 IMPACT Study Prof Andrew Biankin
- 1245 – 1300 LAP-07 Study Prof David Goldstein
- 1300 – 1400 Lunch** *Venue:* Ballroom Foyer & Upper Foyer

**1400 – 1600 Multi-Disciplinary Workshop**  
**Co-Chairs: Sub-Committee Chairs**  
**Venue:** Ballroom 3  
**Topic: Controversies and debates relating to multidisciplinary management of Oesophageal and Gastric Cancer**

**1615 - 1800 Surgical Workshop**  
**Chair: Mark Smithers**  
**Venue:** Stradbroke  
**Topic: Reconstruction after oesophageal resection: Stomach and Colon**  
**Panel: Derek Alderson, David Gotley, Richard Cade**  
Construction of the gastric conduit Ivor Lewis – **Richard Cade**  
Construction of gastric pullup after three field dissection – **Mark Smithers**  
Construction of a colon pullup - **Derek Alderson**  
Management of the redundant colonic pullup – **David Gotley**

### **Saturday August 27: ANZGOSA Day**

**0800: Registration and Welcome**

**0830 – 1030: GI Neuro-endocrine disease**

**Chair: Associate Professor Mark Smithers**

Update of national consensus for neuroendocrine disease – Doctor **Michael Michael**

Medical Management of metastatic carcinoid – Doctor **Michael Michael**

Radionuclide Imaging and therapy for neuroendocrine malignancy – Doctor **Michael Hofman**

The role of surgery for advanced neuroendocrine malignancy – Mr **Ben Thompson**

Gastric Carcinoid disease - Mr **John Spillane**

Discussion

**1030 – 1100: Morning tea**

**Gastric cancer and the role of audit for Upper GI cancer**

**Chairs: Professor Derek Alderson, Dr Garrett Smith**

**1100 – 1145:**

Surgical Management of gastric cancer in Australia – Who should do it? Associate Professor **Mark Smithers**

What is the role of resection for Linitis Plastica? – Mr **Gary Crosthwaite**

Discussion:

**1145 – 1230: UK OG Audit – Value of a National Audit – Professor Derek Alderson**

How does the ANZGOSA National Audit help me? – Dr **Garrett Smith**

Discussion

**1230 – 1330: Lunch**

**1330 – 1500: Upper GI surgery – How it can be done!**

**Chair: Ross Roberts**

Lap Gastric mobilisation for oesophageal carcinoma resection Professor **Derek Alderson**

Pre-emptive vascularisation of the gastric conduit – Is there a role for this technique? Mr **Paul Burton**

Intrathoracic anastomosis after MIE Ivor Lewis – Associate Professor **Andrew Barbour**

Laparoscopic gastro-jejunal anastomosis after gastric resection – Dr **John Jorgensen**

**1500 – 1530: Afternoon Tea**

**1530 – 1630: Strictures of the Upper GI tract**

**Chair: John Jorgensen**

Benign gastric outlet obstruction- management - Mr **Ross Roberts**

Oesophageal anastomotic stricture management – Professor **David Gotley**

Oesophageal Stents – indications, techniques, pitfalls and tricks – Associate Professor **Richard Cade**

**1630 – 1700: ANZGOSA - AGM**

## 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.anzgos.org](http://www.anzgos.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: [anzgos.audit@surgeons.org](mailto:anzgos.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.



Industry Partner Pages

Major Industry Partners



**COVIDIEN**



Industry Partners

