



A N Z G O S A

Australia & New Zealand
Gastric & Oesophageal
Surgery Association

Presidents Report

Issue 11

March 2011

President's Report

For ANZGOSA, the year commenced with the IsDEAS meeting in Hobart. As usual the informal atmosphere and general participation from those attending made this meeting very successful. We are grateful to Rob Bohmer for his efforts in organising the meeting. With the two year cycle for this meeting it will be held next in Victoria in 2013.

In the newsletter there is information updating the ANZGOSA audit. The audit offers an opportunity for all to be involved. Garrett Smith and the audit committee are to be congratulated for getting us to this point and we remain grateful to Novartis for their support that has enabled the maintenance of the audit. The audit will be available to view at the ASC.

Also in the newsletter there is more information about meetings we will have later this year. ANZGOSA is hosting the combined ANZGOSA / ANZHPBA trainees weekend in August. Professor Derek Alderson is the Barling Professor of Surgery in Birmingham and a councillor of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. Many of you will know Derek as he has an esteemed reputation as an Upper GI surgeon.

Derek will also be involved with a combined meeting we will have with the Australasian Gastrointestinal Trials Group (AGITG). The last day of the AGITG meeting will be relevant to oesophago-gastric

malignancy and the following day will be devoted to ANZGOSA alone. The programmes for these two days are being developed and will be available in the near future. *Please put these dates in your diary.*

This will be the first year that fellows will complete the two year training programme. We will be conducting the new 2012 trainee interviews at the ASC and we continue to assess units that have, or wish to have, ANZGOSA trainees.

I look forward to catching up with you all during the year.

Associate Professor Mark Smithers

President

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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 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 –

Mr Andrew Bowker
Mrs Jenny Arena
Mr Anthony Clough
Dr Philip Le Page
Dr Heidi Cameron
Mr Abd Elrafea Elkak
Mr Peter Stiven

Financial Report

A full financial report and Treasurers' report will be 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. 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 1st July – 30th June will be issued in May.

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 142. 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

IsDEAS Meeting

The IsDEAS meeting held February 17 - 19 was very successful, with total registrations around 60. Both social functions were well attended with everyone particularly enjoying the magnificent MONA estate on Friday evening. Very positive feedback has been received and we look forward to seeing everyone at the 2013 IsDEAS meeting, to be held in Victoria.

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. Professor Alderson, a member of the council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, is a leading investigator in trials dealing with Upper GI cancer within the Medical Research Council of England. He is a very experienced Upper GI Surgeon who leads the academic unit in Birmingham, England.

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 Melbourne Hilton Hotel.

Given that this is a surgery focused meeting I would like to offer our members the opportunity to attend this day, August 27. We will try to make this meeting informal which should allow excellent interchange between all participants. The programme is in the final stages and will be emailed to all members when finalised.

We anticipate registration will open in April.

Our Christchurch members

We would like to send our best wishes to all our Christchurch members and families during this time after the devastating earthquake.

2011 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 Industry support from Johnson and Johnson, and 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.

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 . 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.

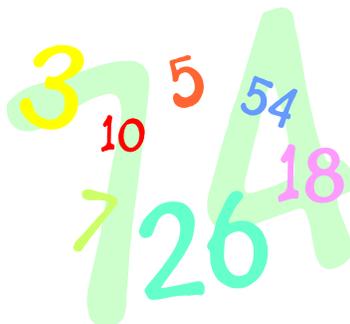
Protection as a Quality Assurance Activity has already been applied for under the relevant legislation in Australia and New Zealand. Being declared a quality assurance activity gives individual surgeons protection from having their data and/or any comparative analysis subpoenaed from the audit.

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.



Industry Partner Pages

Major Industry Partners



Industry Partners

