



A N Z G O S A

Australia & New Zealand
Gastric & Oesophageal
Surgery Association

Presidents Report

Issue 14

May 2012

President's Report

Despite our relative youth as an organisation we continue to evolve. We continue to provide post fellowship training positions in Upper GI surgery, by matching surgeons selected by our training committee to the available positions. I would encourage those of you working in units who feel their unit would be suitable for an ANZGOSA Fellow to apply through our Executive Officer. You have the opportunity to opt in or out each year. We have a number of applicants for the available positions in 2013. In the near future one of our aims will be to have our training programme assessed and accredited by the College of Surgeons.

This ability to formalise training in Upper GI surgery has created opportunities for us to have a close liaison with units in the United Kingdom, in Edinburgh and Newcastle. Having created appropriate selection criteria we will be advertising opportunities for ANZGOSA fellows who are interested in further training in Upper GI units in those cities in the near future. As well there are opportunities for young surgeons who might wish to spend time in Vellore, India. The details relating to this are outlined in the newsletter.

The annual Fellows training weekend will be held in Brisbane organised by ANZHPBA this year.

All the issues around training are overseen by Ross Roberts and the training committee. I appreciate the efforts from Ross and the committee. This is especially relevant as we are about to assess potential Fellows and a number of the training units.

The ANZGOSA audit continues to grow with more and more of you using this facility. The audit will expand with the ability for institutional downloads to occur during the year. I encourage all of you to use the audit. Sarah Thompson is taking over as the chair. All members of the audit committee are committed to ensuring this facility remains relevant and valid to the members. Once again it is important to acknowledge the contribution from Novartis Oncology. Their support has made this possible

The major CME activity for us this year is the combined meeting of ANZGOSA with the Sydney Upper GI Surgeons Society. The organising committee has put together a very interesting programme which is outlined in the Newsletter. We have been fortunate in gaining the time of two excellent overseas visitors. They are Enders Ng who is the head of the Upper GI unit at the Prince of Wales Hospital in Shatin, Hong Kong and Jeffery Hagen who is the Chief of Foregut surgery unit at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles.

In February 2013 we will hold the biennial meeting of the International Society of Diseases of the Esophagus, Australian section, in Melbourne. Please put the dates into your diary.

The support we have received from industry continues to assist our progress. I want to acknowledge our partners Applied Medical and Covidien and the support we have received from Johnson and Johnson Medical.

If you feel there is anything we can do to enhance your membership with ANZGOSA please feel free to contact me. I look forward to seeing many of you in Sydney in September.

Associate Professor Mark Smithers

President

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Future Dates

2012

September 7 - 9
ANZGOSA / SUGGS Joint conference
Sydney NSW

November 3 – 7
ANZHPBA Annual Meeting
Hyatt Regency, Coolum

2013

February 8 and 9
IsDEAS Meeting
Royce Hotel, Melbourne

October 7 – 10
Combined meeting ANZGOSA, ANZHPBA, CSSANZ, GESA
Melbourne



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 Hai T Bui
Dr Yao-Yen Richard Chen
Dr Mary Ann Johnson
Mr Elan Kaplan

Financial Report

A full financial report and Treasurers' report will be provided, and emailed, to all members at the AGM on September, for the year ended 30th June 2012.

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

ANZGOSA membership renewals for the period 1st July – 30th June will be emailed to all members late 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 157. 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 2012 Post Fellowship Trainees' Weekend is being hosted this year by ANZHPBA at the Emporium Hotel Brisbane, November 1 - 2. The weekend has Industry support from Covidien.

2012 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 previous years and have significant local faculty and two international visitors.

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.

IsDEAS Meeting 2013

The 2013 IsDEAS meeting is being held at the Royce Hotel in Melbourne. <http://www.roycehotels.com.au/>

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 is currently putting together a comprehensive programme. The meeting will follow a similar format of 2007, 2009, and 2011. Both Thursday night's cocktail party and Friday night dinner is included in the registration cost.

ANZGOSA / SUGGS Meeting

**** DIARY DATE ****

REGISTRATION WILL OPEN SOON

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

ANZGOSA's annual meeting for 2012 is a combined meeting with SUGGS (Sydney Upper GI Society) focused on the management of oesophago-gastric conditions. The dates for the conference are Friday 7th September to Sunday 9th September, 2012. The meeting is over 2 ½ days and is being held at the Swiss Grand Resort and Spa, Bondi Beach NSW.

International Keynote Speakers –

*Professor Ng Kwok Wai Enders, Hong Kong
Professor Jeffrey Hagen, California*

REGISTRATION FEES

Full Program

Delegate	\$650
Nurses and Upper GI Cancer Co-ordinators	\$400

2 day registration (Sat & Sun)

Delegate	\$500
Nurses and Upper GI Cancer Co-ordinators	\$350

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION IS NOW OPEN!

Submission deadline 30 June 2012

Contributions to the program for the ANZGOSA / SUGGS meeting are encouraged. The theme for the 2012 meeting is **"Surgeons and the Upper GI Tract"** promising an exciting and innovative scientific program.

Free papers will be considered for the afternoon of Friday 7th September, 2012. Please submit an abstract which is no more than 250 words. The abstract should be structured with the following headings: Introduction, Methods, Results, Conclusions.

Please ensure you read the detailed abstract preparation guidelines on the call for abstracts web page before submitting your abstract.

Interesting clinical video vignettes will be considered for the afternoon of Saturday 8th September, 2012. These should be brief (5-7 minutes) case highlights which provide a useful insight into an upper GI problem. Please submit a short 100-150 word overview of your video vignette.

For all abstract submission queries please contact E-Kiddna info@e-Kiddna.com.au

Program highlights

Cancer:

Surgery vs Primary Chemoradiation for oesophageal cancer – Enders NG
Role of preoperative chemotherapy for oesophageal cancer – Jeff Hagan
En Bloc oesophageal resection – Jeff Hagan
Chemoradiotherapy following D2 gastrectomy for stomach cancer in Hong Kong – Enders NG
Safe oesophagectomy – Jeff Hagan
Improving outcomes of oesophago-gastric cancer surgery in NSW and Queensland
Planned changes to upper GI cancer surgery in NSW

Benign:

Perforated peptic ulcer – long term outcomes after eradication of H. Pylori – Enders NG
Changing epidemiology and treatment strategy of peptic ulcer bleeding – Enders NG
Management of bleeding peptic ulcer in Australia and New Zealand
Surgical strategies for a peptic ulcer
The role of mesh in surgery for hiatus hernia
Avoiding recurrent symptoms after antireflux surgery
Issues in bariatric surgery – reflux
Solving difficult endoscopy for the generalist



Upper GI Surgical Unit – Christian Medical College Hospital, Vellore INDIA

Professor Inian Samarasam, an ANZGOSA member, is very keen to foster and maintain links with Australia and New Zealand. There is the opportunity for a young surgeon to work in the Upper GI surgery unit lead by Professor Samarasam. Having seen the case mix of the unit there are clear opportunities to be involved in an Asian unit with a large clinical load as well clinical research opportunities. The time period can be from a minimum of 3 months to a maximum of one year. Currently, this will not be a paid position but Professor Samarasam is exploring opportunities have some funding. Accommodation is available in the CMC Medical College campus, at very reasonable rates. A position is available from early 2012.

For further information please contact our CEO. We would be very happy to put you in touch with Professor Samarasam.

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.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 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

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.



ANZGOSA Board and committees

The current Board is:

President	Mark Smithers (Qld)
Vice President	Ross Roberts (New Zealand)
Secretary	Garett Smith (NSW)
Treasurer	Ahmad Aly (Vic)
Board members	John Jorgensen (NSW)
	Gary Crosthwaite (Vic)
	Tim Bright (SA)
	Rob Bohmer (Tas)
	Sarah Thompson (SA)
	Wendy Brown (VIC)
	Michael Rodgers (New Zealand)
	Krishna Epari (WA)

Training Committee

Ross Roberts (Chairman)
Tim Bright
David Martin
Gary Crosthwaite
Mark Smithers (ANZGOSA President)

Audit Committee

Sarah Thompson (Chairman)
Ahmad Aly
George Kiroff
Andrew Barbour
Michael Rodgers
Peter Cosman
Krishna Epari
Mark Smithers (ANZGOSA President)

Research Committee

Mark Smithers (Chairman)
Wendy Brown
Tim Bright
Andrew Barbour



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