



ANZGOSA

Australia & New Zealand
Gastric & Oesophageal
Surgery Association

NEWSLETTER

Issue 17

May 2013

President's Report

In February we had the biennial IsDEAS meeting in Melbourne and this was great success. We had an executive meeting on the day prior to the conference and elected our first Life Member – Professor Glyn Jamieson. Glyn is well known to us in both countries as well as having a considerable international reputation in the surgical management of benign and malignant disease of the oesophagus. He started the IsDEAS meeting in 1998, so it was very appropriate to announce his life membership at the dinner of the 8th IsDEAS meeting. At this meeting Anthony Farus, a medical student from South Australia, was awarded the Glynn Jamieson prize in the free paper section of the meeting.

The programme for the “Federation Meeting” (that is the combined GE surgical groups and the Gastroenterological society of Australia along with input from the Australasian Gastro-intestinal Trials Group (AGITG)) in October is complete and the registrations are now open. Ahmad Aly has worked very hard to put together a programme that will be of significant interest to our membership. **Karl Fuchs**, a GI surgeon based in Frankfurt, Germany, is our invited guest. He is the Chief of Thoracic and General Surgery at Frankfurt am Main. He was the President of the European Society of Esophageal Diseases in 2010. (2010), President of the European Association of Endoscopic Surgeons (2011) and has been on the board of EURO-NOTES since 2007.

Along with managing malignancy in the Upper GI tract he has personal experience in Per-Oral Endoscopic Myotomy (POEM) for achalasia as well as knowledge of the issues surrounding the present role for NOTES surgery in Europe in 2013. I encourage you all to consider coming to this meeting. It was a great success four years ago when all the groups met in Sydney.

Karl will also attend the trainees' weekend that is held just before the Federation meeting. The Chair of our training committee, Gary Crosthwaite is working on the programme at this time. I am sure it will be the usual success for both the ANZHPBA and ANZGOSA trainees. Interviews and selection of the 2014 trainees will be held soon. The ANZGOSA Fellow position at Newcastle upon Tyne, England, is available for 2014 with the selection process currently underway.

The ANZGOSA Audit now has around 650 cases registered. We are about to do our first institutional data download. Once this has been performed successfully we have two more institutions that will be including their data in the audit. Letters of participation have been sent to those surgeons who are adding their cases to the audit.

We have established the ANZGOSA Blog through the website. Ross Roberts is monitoring this facility.

I have just presented an overview of the first five years of ANZGOSA at the RACS ASC. We have come a long way in that time. I will have the presentation added to our website for those who may be interested.

As always the Executive is open to any suggestions that the membership may have to improve what we can offer as an organisation.

I look forward to catching up with you in October.

Associate Professor Mark Smithers

President

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Future Dates

2013

October 7 – 9
Combined meeting ANZGOSA, ANZHPBA, CSSANZ, GESA
Melbourne
ANZGOSA International visitor is Karl Fuchs

2014

October 1 to 3
Combined meeting with ANZHPBA
Millennium Hotel, Queenstown
2 ½ days meeting



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

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**

ANZGOSA Members

We welcome all our new members –

Mr Kacob Vanyai
Mr Niruben Rajasagaram
Mr Mark Smith

Financial Report

A full financial report and Treasurers' report will be provided, and emailed, to all members after the AGM on October 7th, for the year ended 30th June 2013.

ANZGOSA continues to be in a good position. Three industry partners are secured in three year contracts and membership numbers continue to grow steadily. Industry partnerships will be renegotiated in 2013 for 2014 and beyond.

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



Facebook

Check out ANZGOSA on facebook. See pictures, latest news and announcements. Together with our website www.anzgos.org we are keeping you up to date with the latest regarding our Association.

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Anzgos/304387776331914>.



Membership

Membership numbers are steadily growing with a membership now around 161.

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 or any errors you may see. We do endeavour to keep it as up to date as possible.

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. .

Applications for potential 2014 Fellows are now closed. Advertisements were placed in the 2013 February Surgical News and the ANZGOSA website. CV and referee ranking is almost complete and Fellow interviews will occur 1st June 2013. 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 2013 Post Fellowship Trainees' Weekend is being hosted by ANZGOSA. This weekend is scheduled for October 5 and 6, at The Langham Hotel, Melbourne. 2013 ANZHPBA and ANZGOSA Fellows will attend. As part of the two year Fellowship they are required to attend the Post Fellowship Trainees Weekend. The weekend will again have significant local faculty and international visitors Professor Sean Clary and Professor Karl-Hermann Fuchs. Each Fellow will have one presentation topic focused on their specialty, HPB or GI.

Queenstown Meeting 2014

**** DIARY DATE ****

1 – 3 October, 2014

The "2014 Conjoint ANZ Upper GI and HPB Meeting" is a two and half day program and is the ANZHPBA and ANZGOSA annual meeting for next year. Day one and two will run separate sessions for ANZHPBA and ANZGOSA, and, Day three is combined sessions. The scientific committee is currently putting together a comprehensive and balanced academic programme. The meeting is focused towards a national audience and will be of interest to HPB surgeons, Upper GI surgeons, bariatric surgeons, general surgeons, surgical trainees, gastroenterologists, and oncologists. For those that attended the highly successful 2010 meeting, the venue is again The Millennium Hotel, Queenstown, New Zealand.

AGW 2013

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

The Organising Committee invites you to Australian Gastrointestinal Week to be held in Melbourne from the **7-9 October 2013**.

General Information

- Abstracts submission is open and available only online via the website – www.agw.org.au
- Joint meeting including ANZGOSA, ANZHPBA, CSSANZ, as well as oncologists from the Australian Gastrointestinal Trials Group, our colleagues from the International Symposium of Hepatitis C & Related Viruses Meeting and GENCA
- Overarching theme is Malignant Gastrointestinal and Liver Diseases: Prevention, Surveillance and Cutting Edge Therapy
- All culminating in one of Australia's most vibrant and sophisticated cities

Highlights

- 9 International speakers
- Live endoscopy workshops
- The Great Debate, continuing a popular segment from AGW 2012
- Several State-of-the-Art lectures, symposia and free papers
- Showcasing Young Investigators' Plenary and research papers of distinction
- New and improved poster area
- President's Reception cocktail party encompassing the presentation of the Young Investigators and winner of the Posters of Merit



AGW 2013 – ANZHPBA/ANZGOSA Dinner

The ANZHPBA and ANZGOSA will be having a combined members' dinner on Monday 7th October, at Spice Temple (Crown Complex Southbank Melbourne), 7pm, cost \$140 per person. Bookings for this dinner will open in August.

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 surgeons 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. 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.

New to the Audit –

- **Institutional downloads available soon**



ANZGOSA Board and committees

The current Board is:

President	Mark Smithers (Qld)
President Elect	Ross Roberts (New Zealand)
Secretary	
Treasurer	Tim Bright (SA)
Board members	John Jorgensen (NSW)
	Gary Crosthwaite (Vic)
	Rob Bohmer (Tas)
	Sarah Thompson (SA)
	Wendy Brown (VIC)
	Krishna Epari (WA)
	Andrew MacCormick (NZ)
	Neil Merrett (NSW)
	Ahmad Aly (VIC)

Training Committee

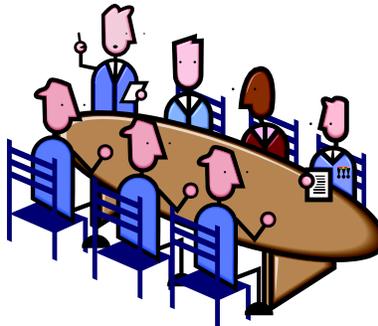
Gary Crosthwaite (Chairman)
Ross Roberts
Tim Bright
David Martin
Gary Crosthwaite
Neil Merrett
Simon Bann
Emma Johnston
Richard Cade
Mark Smithers (ANZGOSA President)

Audit Committee

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

Research Committee

Mark Smithers (Chairman)
Wendy Brown
Tim Bright
Andrew Barbour



Industry Partner Pages

Major Industry Partners



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