



ANZGOSA

Australia & New Zealand
Gastric & Oesophageal
Surgery Association

Presidents Report

Issue 15

October 2012

President's Report

We continue to gain strength and recognition as an organisation with an interest in the management of patients with pathology in and around the gastro-oesophageal region. Presently there are 165 members of ANZGOSA and the numbers continue to grow.

The development and maintenance of the training programme has thrived under the chairmanship of Ross Roberts. We now have 20 hospitals with accreditation to train ANZGOSA Fellows. At the end of 2011 we had three fellows finish the two year programme. In 2012 we have 10 Fellows, five in their first year and five in their second year. We have developed strong relationships with centres overseas so that we now are in a position to offer surgeons who are participating in our training programme the opportunity to apply to spend a year in Newcastle or Edinburgh in the UK. In 2013, two of our trainees, Sebastianus Kwon and Phillip Le Page, will be the first appointments from our selection process to spend a further year in these centres.

The ANZGOSA trainees combine with the ANZHPBA trainees once a year at the annual Trainees' Weekend. The Faculty for these weekends is split between members of each organisation with an overseas expert also in attendance. This year the meeting is in Brisbane, in November, organised by ANZHPBA. We will take charge of organising the meeting of 2013

which will be in or around Melbourne in October.

Ross Roberts finishes his three years as the Chair of the training committee and we are fortunate to have Gary Crosthwaite who has agreed to become the Chairperson. I want to acknowledge and thank Ross, and all the members of the training committee, for their efforts in 2012.

The ANZGOSA audit committee continues to improve and gain more surgeons using the facility. Through SUGSS, Garrett Smith led the development of the initial audit with financial support from Novartis. The audit moved to ANZGOSA and has been further enriched and developed with the support from Katherine Economides and her team in the Research, Audit, and Academic Surgery Division of RACS. Garrett has stood down as chair of that committee, but his contribution and leadership of that audit committee needs to be recognised. Without Garrett we would be nowhere today. Sarah Thompson, from Adelaide, has agreed to Chair this committee.

Once more we are also indebted to Novartis who have agreed to continue Audit sponsorship for a further two years, 2012 – 2013. This means we will need to look to other funding models from 2014 and beyond, a task we will need to address from now. This will be assisted by us introducing fields into the database, assessing cancer outcomes as well as the operative outcomes. As well, we will develop an institutional downloading facility so that we will have a true bi-national representation of the management of gastro-oesophageal cancer and GIST tumours. I wish to thank all the members of the audit committee for their time and commitment.

The combined meeting of ANZGOSA and the Sydney Upper GI Surgeons Society (SUGSS) was a resounding success. The programme nicely covered a spectrum of topics that provided interest and very good discussion both in and out of the conference sessions. Our international visitors, Steven DeMeester from Los Angeles and Enders NG from Hong Kong, provided wonderful presentations and commentary throughout the meeting.

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Future Dates

2012

November 4 – 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

2014

October 1 to 3
Combined meeting with ANZGOSA
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

ANZGOSA Members

We welcome all our new members –

Dr Gregory Nolan
Dr Justin Bessell
Dr Iain Thomson
Dr Raad Almehti
Dr Michael Devadas
Dr Kontoku Shimokawa
Dr Michael Tan'
Dr David Parker
Dr Mark Richardson

Financial Report

A full financial report and Treasurers' report was provided, and emailed, to all members after the AGM on September 8th, 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 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 164. 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

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I want to formally thank Reg Lord, President of SUGSS, members of SUGSS and ANZGOSA, Michael Talbot and David Martin, along with the executive of ANZGOSA, in assisting with the programme development and organisation.

As the strength of the organisation increases, we can move into a position where we should be looking for greater involvement from our members. We have increased the size of the audit committee. We have increased the size of the training committee so that the many important tasks required can be shared more evenly. We are continuously on a cycle of CME projects and I feel we should be involving members in the organisation of these events as well as the executive. In the next few years we will need to look at formalising a link to the RACS with recognition of our post fellowship training programme and the services we provide for surgeons in Australia and New Zealand.

With respect to CME, we will aim to develop opportunities for travelling and educational support for members and training Fellows who may wish to visit specialist centres or conferences. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will see the planned conferences that will be relevant to the membership in 2013 and 2014. In 2013 our biennial **IsDEAS meeting** will be held in **Melbourne (February 2013)** and in October the **Federation of Gastroenterological Societies, Scientific Meeting (October 7-10)**, will be held in **Melbourne**. This is a combined meeting of the Gastroenterological Society of Australia (GESA), ANZGOSA, ANZHPBA and the Colorectal Surgery Society of Australia and New Zealand (CSSANZ). In 2009 following a successful meeting of these groups it was decided there would be a Federation meeting every four years. We have just started to work on the programme. The focus will be on neoplasia in the oesophagus and stomach.

In October 2014 we will have the **Combined ANZGOSA / ANZHPBA meeting in Queenstown, NZ**. This was a very successful meeting in 2010 and we felt it was a positive thing to have the two groups interact formally like this every four years. It is early days but the venue is booked.

The support we receive from our major industry partners: Covidien and Applied Medical, and Industry supporter Johnson and Johnson allows us to maintain the impetus in all our educational activities, without any intrusion into the details of our activities. We thank these companies for their continual support and involvement in our Association.

I wish to thank the Executive of ANZGOSA for their continued support and efforts on behalf of the organisation. This year the leadership from Ross Roberts (Vice President) and Ahmad Aly (Treasurer) deserve specific mention. However, it is a positive thing to have a change in personnel bringing new thoughts and ideas. Unfortunately, we have lost Garrett Smith and Michael Rodgers. I thank them both for their contribution to the Executive. Professor Neil Merrett and Andrew MacCormick were elected unopposed to fill these two positions. We look forward to their contribution. I have the pleasure to announce that Ross Roberts has been elected as the President Elect and will take over as President following the AGM in October 2013.

Finally, no organisation such as this can function without a well organised Executive Officer. We are very fortunate to have Leanne Rogers and I thank her on behalf of the membership, the executive and personally for her commitment to making all of this work.

*Associate Professor Mark Smithers
President*

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 2 - 3. The weekend has Industry support from Covidien.

2012 ANZHPBA and ANZGOSA Fellows have been 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 international visitors Professor James Garden and Professor David Flum .

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.

Post Fellowship Training in Upper GI Surgery 2013

We congratulate our successful appointments to the ANZGOSA Post Fellowship Training Programme for 2013 –

Michael Tan to St George Hospital
Michael Devadas to Bankstown/Liverpool Hospitals
Kontoku Shimokawa to Fremantle Hospital
Matthew Henderson to Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital

On behalf of the ANZGOSA Board, we congratulate and welcome these four 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 2013 -

John Ozmen to St George Hospital
Damien Loh to St Vincents Hospital
Richard Skipworth (UK) to Royal North Shore Hospital
David Links to Concord Hospital
Chek Heng Tog to Austin Hospital
Sebastian Kwon to Newcastle (UK) 3rd year
Philip Le Page to Edinburgh (UK) 3rd year

ANZGOSA / SUGGS Meeting

The ANZGOSA's annual meeting for 2012 was held Friday 7th September to Sunday 9th September, and was a combined meeting with SUGGS (Sydney Upper GI Society). The meeting attracted 130 registrants and received very positive feedback from all who attended. The meeting focused on the management of oesophago-gastric conditions and was held over 2 ½ days at the Swiss Grand Resort and Spa, Bondi Beach NSW.

Overall the meeting was highly successful and in a beautiful location. Well supported by Industry this allowed us a great opportunity to provide an educational programme for the members of ANZGOSA.

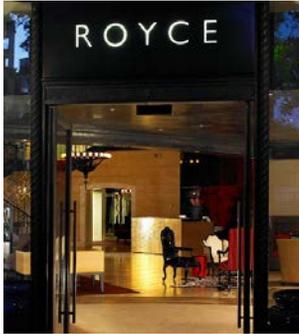
International keynote speakers included Professor Enders Ng (Hong Kong) and Professor Steven DeMeester (California).

Thank you to all members who supported this event.

New Board Members

We welcome new Board Members Neil Merrett (NSW) and Andrew MacCormick (NZ). We look forward to their contribution to ANZGOSA over the next three years.

We would also like to announce the appointment of Ross Roberts to President Elect. Ross will start his presidency from October 2013.



The 2013 IsDEAS meeting is being held at the Royce Hotel in Melbourne. Ideally located on Australia's most famous boulevard, St Kilda Road, the Royce is within walking distance to the fashionable shopping and restaurant precincts of Toorak Road and Chapel Street, Melbourne CBD, Royal Botanic Gardens, Shrine of Remembrance and Albert Park Lake.

This previously well attended meeting is the 2013 annual meeting for ANZGOSA.

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 has put together a comprehensive programme. The meeting will follow a similar format of 2007,

2009, and 2011. Both Thursday night welcome drinks and Friday night conference dinner are included in the registration cost.

Registration details

Registration fee of \$475 includes –

- Thursday evening Welcome Drinks and canapés
- Friday evening Conference Dinner
- Friday and Saturday meeting

Program

Friday February 8

0730 – 0830 Registration

0830 Welcome A/Prof Mark Smithers

0840-1010 Session 1 – Motility Disorders

0840 - 0850 Definition and classification of motility disorders of the oesophagus and stomach – Paul Burton
0855 - 0905 Diagnosis and Management of non-achalasic oesophageal and motility disorders
0910 - 0930 Surgical management of motility disorders of the oesophagus – Richard Cade
0935 - 0955 What happens to gastric emptying after hiatus hernia repair and fundoplication? – Ahmad Aly
1000 - 1010 Panel discussion

1010 – 1030 Morning Tea

1030-1230 Session 2 – Free Papers and Video

1230 – 1315 Lunch

1315-1500 Session 3 – Oesophageal Cancer and Barretts

1315 -1335 Treatment of Low Grade Barretts

- Role of long term acid suppression (10 mins) – Adam Cichowitz
- Role of Anti-reflux Surgery (10 mins) – David Links

1335 - 1345 Ablative Therapy for Barretts – When and How?

1350 - 1400 Discussion of Barretts

- 1405 - 1435 Radiotherapy and oesophageal adenocarcinoma
- Must be given preoperatively (15 mins) – Trevor Leong
 - Should not be given preoperatively (15 mins) – Ian Porter
- 1440 - 1500 Panel discussion
- 1500 – 1530 Afternoon Tea**
- 1530-1700 Session 4 – How do I do it and why?**
- 1530-1545 Totally endoscopic oesophagectomy
- Version 1 - Andrew Smith
 - Version 2 – Andrew Barbour
- 1550-1605 Hellers myotomy
- Anterior wrap – Steve Kelly
 - Posterior wrap – Peter Nottle
- 1610-1625 Laparoscopic Gastrectomy
- Version 1 – Hai Bui
 - Version 2 – Michael Talbot
- 1630-1650 Pharyngeal
- Endoscopic Zenkers – Ahmad Aly
 - Open Zenkers – Peter Devitt
- 1650-1700 Panel discussion
- 1900 - Conference Dinner – Royce Grand Ballroom

Saturday February 9

- 0800-1000 Session 5 – GORD and Hiatus Herniae**
- 0800 - 0815 Fundoplication and oesophageal motility disorder. Should it be done?
– David Watson
- 0820 - 0835 Predictors of poor outcomes following anti-reflux surgery
- 0840 – 0855 Investigating recurrent reflux symptoms – Rob Finch
- 0900 – 0915 Post-operative symptoms but a “perfect” operation – what now?
– Les Nathanson
- 0920 – 0935 Revisional surgery – how and how many times? – David Gotley
- 0940 – 1000 Panel Discussion
- 1000 – 1020 Morning Tea**
- 1020-1230 Session 6 – Interesting cases and the Cockeral award**
- 1230 Closing remarks and presentation of prize for best free paper**
- 1240 Lunch**

IsDEAS meeting

Royce Hotel, Melbourne

February 7 – 9, 2013

Registration Form

PERSONAL

Title:

Surname:

First name(s):

CONTACT INFORMATION

Address:

Email:

Telephone Business:

Pager:

Mobile:

Other:

Facsimile:

For catering purposes, please indicate attendance at the following functions:

Yes, I am attending the drinks Thursday 7th February *Partner Attending Yes / No*

Yes, I am attending the dinner on Friday 8th February *Partner Attending Yes / No*

Yes, I am attending the lunch on Saturday 9th February *Partner Attending Yes / No*

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Cheque (please enclose a cheque made out to the Australia and New Zealand Gastric and Oesophageal Surgery Association).

Please debit my [Mastercard / Visa]

Card number: / / / Expiry Date:

For the sum of \$AUD: \$475

Name on card (please print):

Signature:



ANZGOSA

Australia & New Zealand
Gastric & Oesophageal
Surgery Association

Please return your completed registration form to the ANZHPBA Secretariat,
P.O. Box 374 Belair, SA, 5052 or fax to 08 8278 1249

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 –

- **Reporting Suite**
- **Institutional downloads**



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

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