



NZAGS 2025 Programme

**Friday Night Welcome Drinks in the Events Entrance Foyer
From 5.30pm to 7.30pm**

Saturday 29th March

07:00am **Registration Open** **Great Room 3&4**
Tea and Coffee, Industry Exhibition

08:00am Welcome: Dr Li Hsee, Auckland and Dr Vanessa Blair, NZAGS
Powhiri/Mihi ***Kaumatua Elliot Tabolt and Whaea Mero Cooper***
He Kamaka Waiora the mihi Whakatau

Session 1 **Global Collaboration in General Surgery** **Great Room 1&2**
Chair: Dr Li Hsee and Dr Vanessa Blair

08:15am **Complex UGI/HPB Surgery in Alaska: Overcoming Remote Challenges**
Dr Sarah Smith – Anchorage, USA

08:45am **Training in Trauma Surgery – Global Perspectives**
Dr Kate Martin – Melbourne, Australia

09:00am **Training in Emergency General Surgery – will AI help?**
Dr Michael Sugrue – Letterkenny, Ireland

09:15am **Complex Trauma Cases: Ask an Irishman, Alaskan and Ozzie!**
Cases presentations: Dr Sunder Balasubramaniam - Singapore

10:00am-10:30am **Morning Tea and Industry Exhibition** **Great Room 3&4**

Session 2 **Collaboration between Stakeholders** **Great Room 1&2**
Chair: Dr Bevan Jenkins and Dr Julian Hayes

10:30am **Developing National Malignancy Services: UK Experience in Rectal and Peritoneal Malignancy**
Dr Brendan Moran - Basingstoke, United Kingdom

11:00am **Delivering National Surgical Services in Aotearoa-New Zealand**
Dr Richard Sullivan – Health New Zealand

11:15am **RACS UPDATE: The Bi-national Future**
Prof Owen Ung, RACS - Australia

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11.30am	NZAGS update: Collaborating to Influence Change Dr Vanessa Blair - Auckland	
11.45	Strength in numbers: Outcomes from the STRATA collaboration Dr Matthew McGuinness – Northshore (Senior Trainee)	
12.00pm	NZAGS AGM	
12:15pm – 1.10pm	Lunch and Industry Exhibition	Great Room 3&4
12.40pm	<i>Poster Presenters will stand by their posters from 12:40 to 1:10pm for questions and discussion</i>	
Session 3	Trainee and Paper Session Chair: Dr Isi Tonga Judges: Dr Sunder Balasubramaniam, Nagham Al Mozany, Wal Baraza, and Kate Martin	Great Room 1&2
1:10pm	Investigating postcode lottery: Do regional outreach clinics improve access to elective general surgical care for Rural and Māori populations? - Sarah Cowan	
1:20pm	The State of Rural and Regional General Surgical Services in Aotearoa, New Zealand: A Systematic Review - Joseph Bridgeman	
1:30pm	Association between frailty, long-term mortality and functional outcomes for older adults undergoing emergency laparotomy - Brittany Park	
1:40pm	Appendiceal neuroendocrine tumours, when to operate? - Imogen Watt	
1:50pm	Examining the safety of same day discharge post laparoscopic appendicectomy - Stacey Caldwell	
2:00pm	Early Management and Outcomes of Acute Pancreatitis in Aotearoa New Zealand: A Multicenter, Prospective Cohort Study - Nejo Joseph	
2:10pm	Early-Onset Colorectal Cancer: Diagnostic Pathways and Their Impact on Outcomes - Oliver Waddell	
2:20pm	Root-cause analysis of post-colonoscopy colorectal cancers in Aotearoa New Zealand: results from the POET study - William Xu	
2:30pm	“I thought it was just a polyp” – a review of polyp cancers detected through the National Bowel Screening Programme in New Zealand - Joshua Wensley	

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2:40pm	Comparison of Acute Colorectal Cancer Presentations Before and After the Introduction of the National Bowel Screening Programme at a Single Centre: A Retrospective Study - Rana Alsadat	
2:50pm	The impact of local and regional analgesia on pain and opioid consumption in patients undergoing open upper gastrointestinal surgery: a network meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials - Nicolas Joe Smith	
3:00pm	Comparing NZDep and NZiDep scores and their use at predicting outcomes in emergency laparotomy - Shauna O'Brien	
3:00pm-3:30pm	Afternoon Tea & Industry Exhibition	Great Room 3&4
Session 4	THE UPPER GUT and HPB Chair: Dr Angela Bayly and Dr Grant Beban	Great Room 1&2
3:30pm	Robotics and Advancing Surgical Technology in Alaska: Lessons for Aotearoa Dr Sarah Smith - Anchorage, USA	
3.50pm	Controversies in HPB Malignancy Dr Adam Bartlett - Auckland	
4.20pm	Collaboration in Oesophago-gastric surgery: An Auckland City Hospital experience Dr Nick Evennett - Auckland	
4:40pm`	Surgical Management of Hepatocellular Carcinoma Dr Sarah Smith – Anchorage, USA	
5.00pm	Discussion	
5.15pm	Day 1 Close	
	EVENING	
6.20pm	Buses leave from Events Entrance Foyer – first bus leaves 6.30pm	
7:00pm	Conference Awards Dinner Be seated by 7.30pm	Sails Restaurant
10:30pm	Return from dinner venue to accommodation	

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Sunday 30th March

07:30am Registration Open
Tea and Coffee, Industry Exhibition **Great Room 3&4**

Session 5A **Colorectal surgery** **Great Room 1**
Chair: Dr Maree Weston and Dr Wal Baraza

08:30am **Rectal Cancer Surgery – Watch and Wait**
Dr Sze Lin Peng, Middlemore

08:50am **Management of the ‘significant’ Polyp – the SPECC concept**
Dr Brendan Moran, Basingstoke, UK

09:10am **The Pelvic Floor + SNS**
Dr Rowan Collinson, Auckland

09:30am **Collaboration in IBD**
Dr Bruce George, Auckland

Session 5B **Operative Damage Control Surgery** **Great Room 2**
Chair: Dr Li Hsee and Dr Rebecca Schroll

08.30am **When to Operate on Major Hepatic Trauma**
Dr Kate Martin, Melbourne, Australia

08:45am **VATS - Thoracotomy**
Dr Savitha Bhagvan, Auckland

09:00am **Complications of Open Abdomen + Techniques of Closure**
Dr Aleisha Sutherland, Middlemore

09:15am **Pelvic Packing vs Angioembolization**
Dr Rebecca Schroll, Auckland

09:30am **Emergency Tracheostomy for General Surgeons**
Dr Sunder Balasubramaniam, Singapore

10:00am-10.30am **Morning Tea and Industry Exhibition** **Great Room 3&4**

Session 6 **Collaboration in Complex Cancer Management** **Great Room 1&2**
Chair: Dr Eletha Taylor and Dr Jamish Ghandi

10:30am **The North Island Sarcoma Service**
Dr Carla Pajak, Auckland

10:50am **Breast Reconstruction in Aotearoa-NZ**
Dr Michelle Locke, Middlemore

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11:10am	Interdisciplinary Management of Neuroendocrine Tumor Dr Ben Lawrence, Medical Oncologist, Auckland	
11:30am	Decision making in Cytoreductive Surgery and HIPEC patients Case 1: Dr Jamish Ghandi, Auckland Unit Case 2: Dr Jasen Ly, Waikato Unit	
11:45am	Conflicts around Cytoreductive Surgery (CRS) and Hyperthermic Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy (HIPEC) for patients with Colorectal Peritoneal Metastases Dr Brendan Moran - Basingstoke, United Kingdom	
12.15pm	Questions	
12:30pm-1:30pm	Lunch and Industry Exhibition	Great Room 3&4
Session 7	Specialist General Surgery – Our future Chair: Dr Chris Harmston and Dr Vanessa Blair	Great Room 1&2
1:30pm	Complex Hernia Management and the Hernia MDM Dr Diederik Meylemans – Auckland	
1:50pm	Management of Severe Diverticular Disease – when to operate? Dr Lincoln Israel, Middlemore	
2:10pm	The debate: ‘Can we afford complex ops let alone robotic ops!’ Negative: Dr Rowan French, Waikato Affirmative: Dr Sanket (Sunny) Srinivasa, North Shore Moderator: Dr Maree Weston, Middlemore	
2.45pm	Discussion	
3:00pm-3:15pm	Conference Close Dr Li Hsee and Dr Vanessa Blair Closing as per Māori protocol	