



## NZAGS 2025 Programme

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

### Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> 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



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

# NZAGS25

29-30 MARCH 2025 | CORDIS HOTEL, AUCKLAND

## MAHI TAHI I ROTO I TE POKANGA COLLABORATION IN SURGERY

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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 - <b>Rana Alsadat</b>	
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 - <b>Nicolas Joe Smith</b>	
3:00pm	Comparing NZDep and NZiDep scores and there use at predicting outcomes in emergency laparotomy - <b>Shauna O'Brien</b>	
3:00pm-3:30pm	Afternoon Tea & Industry Exhibition	Great Room 3&4
Session 4	<b>THE UPPER GUT and HPB</b> Chair: <b>Dr Angela Bayly and Dr Grant Beban</b>	Great Room 1&2
3:30pm	<b>Robotics and Advancing Surgical Technology in Alaska: Lessons for Aotearoa</b> Dr Sarah Smith - Anchorage, USA	
3.50pm	<b>Controversies in HPB Malignancy</b> Dr Adam Bartlett - Auckland	
4.20pm	<b>Collaboration in Oesophago-gastric surgery: An Auckland City Hospital experience</b> Dr Nick Evennett - Auckland	
4:40pm`	<b>Surgical Management of Hepatocellular Carcinoma</b> 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	<b>Conference Awards Dinner</b> <b>Be seated by 7.30pm</b>	Sails Restaurant
10:30pm	Return from dinner venue to accommodation	



## Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> 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



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