

The Australian and New Zealand Society of Cardiac and Thoracic Surgeons

ABN 44503186462



ANZSCTS Presidents Spring Communique 2023

With 2 weeks to go before the Annual Scientific Meeting in Wellington New Zealand this communication will be brief!

This year's meeting is staged at the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa from Thursday 9 until Saturday 11 November. As usual the ASM commences with the Cardiothoracic Trainees and Nurse and Allied Health Education Day. Both education events will feature wetlab components, from AF ablation surgery to aortic valve implantation.

Younger Fellows will also have the opportunity on Thursday to learn from the experts at the Mini-mitral Workshop. This workshop is facilitated by Peyman Sardari Nia, with local experts (Paul Jansz, Aubrey Almeida and Stephanie Ch'ng) assisting. The course consists of a quick-fire tutorial program and hands on endoscopic "dry-lab" training using equipment shipped in from Europe.

The scientific program commences Friday with a general theme of "Expand your horizons – Cardiothoracic Surgery 2023 and beyond". Many speakers have travelled to the land of the long white cloud to discuss "what's important in the next 10 years", from percutaneous therapies to minimal access surgery, "how to deal the challenging cases" and conquering thoracic malignancies. The program includes a strong valvular heart disease focus, trauma surgery and the latest research from our resident, registrar, trainee, fellow and consultant cohort.

This meeting is a great opportunity to reconnect with friends, explore a beautiful country and update your knowledge in one of the most innovative, demanding (at times!) but rewarding surgical specialties.

The international invited speakers and their presentations are:

Dr Puja Kachroo (St Louis USA) Leveraging Innovation to Facilitate High-Risk Cardiac Surgery and SAVR after TAVR: The Future is Now; Future of CABG: Defining the Second Best Conduit. SAVR after TAVR: The Future is Now.

Dr Maral Ouzounian (Toronto, Canada) Patient prosthesis mismatch? TAVI vs. SAVR in the small annulus. Ross Procedure: who, when, and why? Arch management in Acute Type A dissection.

Dr Joseph Bavaria (Philadelphia, USA) TAVI in Low Risk Patients: Quo Vadis? The Globalists Multi-Society Drama of Coronary Artery Guidelines. The ascending aorta – stent. Sequential TBE in dissection.

Dr Peyman Sardari Nia (Maastricht, The Netherlands) Minimally invasive mitral valve surgery: The evidence and the contemporary techniques. Planning a mini mitral. Looking into the crystal ball - new technologies and the heart team.

At the ASM conference dinner on Saturday the Society will announce the 2023 awards.

- Baxter Healthcare have sponsored a prize for the best essay relating to haemostasis or haemorrhage control in trauma. Applicants must also submit a 2 minute educational video relating to trauma management. Women in Cardiothoracic surgery will have their annual lunch meeting on Thursday 9 November. Again, the Avant Women in CTS grant will be awarded at this meeting. This year the theme is “Art in cardiothoracic surgery”. Entries are still open for both awards (grants) and can be submitted to nickdanes@anzscts.org.
- We will also acknowledge our other sponsors, Edwards Lifesciences, Abbott, and Medtronic who contributed various awards in 2023.

The 34th Annual General Meeting of the ANZSCTS will be held on Friday 10 November 2023 – Te Papa Museum (Soundings Theatre) Wellington New Zealand, commencing at 5.00pm (NZDT). This is an important meeting with members able to submit questions. The Annual Report of the Society for the year ended 30 June 2023 (including the Financial Report, the Executive Report and the Auditor’s Report) will be tabled, along with reports from the society representatives (Chair, Board of Cardiothoracic Surgery, New Zealand Representative, Trainee Representative, Younger Fellow Representative, Government Relations, Secretariat, Thoracic Representative and the RACS Cardiothoracic Specialty Elected Councillor). The Society encourages all members to attend and speak up. A strong society with vigorous participation and strong opinions is a strong specialty.

Your Sincerely,



Emily Granger
President ANZSCTS