

The Dunedin – Cardiothoracic week

The week is specifically designed for those planning to sit the **CSSP** and the **Fellowship** exams. Parts of the course are also particularly relevant to those working in the field of Cardiothoracic Medicine wanting to consolidate their knowledge of the basic sciences as they pertain to the cardiac and respiratory systems. Some days of the week would also be particularly helpful for trainees in Cardiology, Medicine, Perfusion and Intensive Care. Nursing staff working in the Cath lab would also benefit plus perfusionists and Nurse Specialists.

The course is designed in a modular fashion so attendees can choose which days are particularly relevant to them.

For a number of years the DBMST (Dunedin Basic Medical Sciences Trust) has convened a course specifically for candidates presenting for the CSSP (mid – SET) exam for RACS trainees in cardiothoracic surgery. In recent times it has moved to Dunedin and has become a residential course for those that wish to stay onsite.

The DBMST is also the Trust that for over 50 years has convened The Dunedin Course for those candidates that are presenting for the GSSE Exam

We have now expanded the CSSP course (Now the Dunedin cardiothoracic week) to also assist those who may be presenting for the RACS fellowship exam in Cardiothoracic Surgery and those working in allied health in the field of cardiothoracic medicine-surgery

Days 1 – 4 (closely follows the syllabus for the CSSP Exam and is the CSSP Course)

Days 1 - 2 are dedicated to the basic sciences of Anatomy, Physiology and Pathology as they are applied to the Cardiac and Respiratory systems. This follows the syllabus of the CSSP course but is also an excellent grounding in the basic sciences for trainees in Cardiology, Medicine and Intensive Care. Nursing staff working in the Cath lab would also benefit plus perfusionists and Nurse Specialists.

Days 3 - 4 are dedicated to Cardio-Respiratory pathology and Imaging. Also included are echocardiography, myocardial protection, assessing Cardio-Respiratory performance and Cardiopulmonary Bypass.

(Days 1-4 follow the CSSP exam syllabus)

Days 5 - 6 concentrates on Surgery of Benign and Malignant Lung disease, Mediastinal disease and Disease of the Pleural space and Pericardium. Surgical access to the Thorax is discussed as is Heart/Lung transplantation. Surgery of the Coronary Arteries, Aortic Valve (and Root), Mitral Valve and Right sided valves. Re-operative surgery is covered. These two days are more clinically orientated and would benefit CSSP and Fellowship Candidates.

Day 7 Covers Post Operative complications, Medical – surgical interface (devices – percutaneous interventions). ICU issues are covered as are aspects of congenital Heart Surgery.

Day 8 is a practical day designed specifically for RACS Fellowship candidates with a day of long cases, short cases and operative surgery

In Summary: Days 1 & 2 are suitable for those wishing to learn/revise basic sciences as they pertain to Cardiothoracic Surgery

Days 3 & 4 are suitable for learning/revising the pathology and the basic principles of investigations, Myocardial protection, Circulatory support, Cardiopulmonary Bypass and ECMO

Days 1,2,3 & 4 follow the syllabus of the CSSP exam

Days 5 & 6 concentrate on Thoracic and Cardiac surgery.

Days 7 & 8 are more specific for the RACS Fellowship Exam.

Days 3,4,5,6,7 & 8 are days that would directly benefit those presenting for the Fellowship exam

Venue: Leisure Lodge Hotel, Dunedin. The Lodge has special room rates for those attending the course. Course attendees may choose to stay elsewhere

Date for 2024: July 20th – 27th

Course Fees: The course Fees are \$500/day.

Attendees may choose to attend the number of days they wish to attend

For general information regarding the venue, the Trust and Dunedin www.dunedincourse.ac.nz

For general enquiries email – dickbunton@outlook.co.nz

A formal application form will be posted on the Trust website in February

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