



Surgery 2025
Enhancing quality and
compassion in surgery

4-5 September
Parliament, Wellington
Aotearoa New Zealand

Royal Australasian
College of Surgeons
Te Whare Piki Ora o Māhūtonga

Provisional Programme

[Register Now](#)

Thursday 4 September	
8:15 – 8:45	Registration
8:45 – 9:00	Mihi whakatau
9:00 – 10:30	Session One: Key Health Leaders Helen Stokes-Lampard (Chief Medical Officer) <i>You, Me and Health New Zealand: A session with the new National Chief Medical Officer of Health New Zealand</i> Andrew Connolly (Deputy Chair – TWO Board) <i>Navigating change in today's environment</i> Derek Sherwood (Clinical Lead, Planned Care, TWO) <i>Opportunities for improvement in the health system</i>
10:30 – 11:00	Morning Tea
11:00 – 12:45	Session Two: Workforce Planning Helen Stokes-Lampard (Chief Medical Officer) <i>What's being done and could be done</i> Tom de Koning (Future of Health Workforce, TWO) <i>State of our surgical workforce: workforce data and modelling</i> Kesara Wickremesekera (President, VSAoNZ) <i>Vascular surgery workforce</i> Michelle Locke (President, NZAPS) <i>Plastic surgery workforce</i> Mark Fraundorfer (Chair, AoNZ Section – USANZ) <i>Urology workforce</i> Panel discussion
12:45 – 13:45	Lunch
13:45 – 15:15	Session Three: Registries Eva Fong (Urology) <i>PROMS: how can we make PROMS more patient centred</i> Stephen Mark (Urology) <i>Prostate cancer registry</i> Michelle Locke (President, NZAPS) <i>Breast implant registry</i> Gary Hooper (Orthopaedic Surgery) <i>Joint implants registry</i> Panel discussion
15:15 – 15:45	Afternoon Tea
15:45 – 17:15	Session Four: Tips for a Savvy Surgeon Lynley Anderson (Professor, Otago) <i>Consent for medical student teaching</i> Michael Webster (Privacy Commissioner) <i>Doing privacy well</i> Morag McDowell (Health & Disability Commissioner) <i>Staying on the right side of HDC</i>
17:15 – 17:30	Award Presentations
17:30 – 18:30	Welcome Function
19:00 for 19:30	Dinner – Legislative Council Chamber
Friday 5 September	
8:00 – 8:30	Registration
8:30 – 10:15	Session Five: Sally Walker (MNZM) <i>A consumer's insights into communication and compassion</i> Carlton Irving (Director of Māori Health and Consumer, HQSC) <i>Inequities in the surgical system</i> Souella Cumming (FCA, ONZM) <i>Leadership at an organisational level and how we look after workforce</i> Hamish Gray (Chief Clinical Advisor, MOH) <i>Taking consent on the day</i>
10:15 – 10:45	Morning Tea
10:45 – 12:15	Session Six: Compassionate Leadership Sarah Rennie (General Surgery) <i>Creating psychological safety for trainees</i> Robin Youngson (Practitioner, Neuroscience of Healing) <i>How compassionate care improves patient outcomes and protects against physician burnout</i> Sarah Jackson (National Chief, Quality & Patient Safety, TWO) <i>Compassionate leadership</i>
12:15 – 13:15	Lunch
13:15 – 14:30	Session Seven: Audrey Sonerson (Director-General of Health, MOH) <i>Effective advocacy and managing demands in a resource-constrained environment</i> Jo Prendergast (Psychiatrist/Author/Comedian) <i>A psychiatrist, cancer patient's reflections on quality and compassion in surgery</i>
14:30 – 15:00	Afternoon Tea
15:00 – 17:00	Session Eight: Dealing with Mistakes Peter Davidson (Urology) <i>My experience at Coroners Court</i> Heather McKenzie (Coroner) <i>The Coroners Court</i> Adam Holloway (Partner, Wotton + Kearney/MPS Lawyer) <i>How to prepare for Coroners Court</i> Elizabeth Masters (MCNZ Deputy Registrar) <i>The Council's professional standards process</i> TBC <i>The Health Practitioner's Disciplinary Tribunal Process</i> Panel Discussion