



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*

Programme  
[Register Now](#)

| Thursday 4 September |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:15 – 8:45          | Registration                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 8:45 – 9:00          | Mihi whakatau                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 9:00 – 10:30         | <b>Session One: Key Health Leaders</b><br>Helen Stokes-Lampard (Chief Medical Officer)   <i>You, me and Aotearoa: The IMG National CMO</i><br>Andrew Connolly (Deputy Chair – TWO Board)   <i>Navigating change in today's environment</i><br>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        | <b>Session Two: Workforce Planning</b><br>Helen Stokes-Lampard (Chief Medical Officer)   <i>What's being done and could be done</i><br>Tom de Koning (Future of Health Workforce, TWO)   <i>State of our surgical workforce: workforce data and modelling</i><br>Kesara Wickremesekera (President, VSAoNZ)   <i>Vascular surgery workforce</i><br>Michelle Locke (President, NZAPS)   <i>Plastic surgery workforce</i><br>Mark Fraundorfer (Chair, AoNZ Section – USANZ)   <i>Urology workforce</i><br>Panel discussion |
| 12:45 – 13:45        | Lunch                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 13:45 – 15:15        | <b>Session Three: Registries</b><br>Eva Fong (Urology)   <i>PROMS: how can we make PROMS more patient centred</i><br>Stephen Mark (Urology)   <i>NZ Prostate Cancer Outcomes Registry</i><br>Michelle Locke (President, NZAPS)   <i>Breast implant registry</i><br>Gary Hooper (Orthopaedic Surgery)   <i>The development of the New Zealand Joint registry and its role in assessing patient related outcomes and identifying outlier surgeons</i><br>Panel discussion                                                 |
| 15:15 – 15:45        | Afternoon Tea                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 15:45 – 17:15        | <b>Session Four: Tips for a Savvy Surgeon</b><br>Lynley Anderson (Professor, Otago)   <i>Consent for medical student teaching</i><br>Michael Webster (Privacy Commissioner)   <i>Doing privacy well</i><br>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         | <b>Session Five</b><br>Sally Walker (MNZM)   <i>A consumer's insights into communication and compassion</i><br>Carlton Irving (Director of Māori Health and Consumer, HQSC)   <i>Improving Equity in Surgical Waitlists</i><br>Souella Cumming (FCA, ONZM)   <i>Leadership at an organisational level and how we look after workforce</i><br>Hamish Gray (Chief Clinical Advisor, MOH)   <i>When the facts change: Consent &amp; intra-operative change of surgical plan</i>                                            |
| 10:15 – 10:45        | Morning Tea                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 10:45 – 12:15        | <b>Session Six: Compassionate Leadership</b><br>Sarah Rennie (General Surgery)   <i>Creating psychological safety for trainees</i><br>Robin Youngson (Practitioner, Neuroscience of Healing)   <i>How compassionate care improves patient outcomes and protects against physician burnout</i><br>Sarah Jackson (National Chief, Quality & Patient Safety, TWO)   <i>Compassionate leadership</i>                                                                                                                        |
| 12:15 – 13:15        | Lunch                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 13:15 – 14:30        | <b>Session Seven</b><br>Audrey Sonerson (Director-General of Health, MOH)   <i>Managing Demands in a Resource-Constrained Environment</i><br>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        | <b>Session Eight: Dealing with Mistakes</b><br>Peter Davidson (Urology)   <i>A personal experience of the Coroners Court</i><br>Heather McKenzie (Coroner)   <i>The Coroners Court</i><br>Adam Holloway (Partner, Wotton + Kearney/MPS Lawyer)   <i>How to prepare for Coroners Court</i><br>Elizabeth Masters (MCNZ Deputy Registrar)   <i>The Council's professional standards process &amp; the Health Practitioner's Disciplinary Tribunal</i><br>Panel Discussion                                                  |