



Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

Foundation for Surgery

the
Thank you
Report

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Māori Health

Facilitating long-term change by addressing some of the cultural, social and economic barriers to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Māori people being over-represented in the poor determinants of health through supporting aspiring Indigenous surgeons in Australia and New Zealand.

Working to enhance recognition and awareness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Māori health issues, promoting excellence in care and improving understanding of culturally appropriate treatment through education and advocacy.

Research and Scholarships

Forging higher levels of excellence in surgical practice through supporting ground-breaking research to ensure the safety, effectiveness and appropriateness of surgical practice is based on the best evidence, and all people have access to enhanced levels of early detection, surgical care and treatment when they need it.

Supporting advocacy for higher levels of patient care to ensure that surgeons and other health professionals have the most up-to-date knowledge to provide the highest quality patient care.

Global Health

Addressing needs in developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region by providing essential medical and surgical services to disadvantaged communities that would otherwise be unable to access specialist care. Working with local partners, volunteer specialists address sight, hearing, and mobility as well as many other critical needs.

Investing in people is essential to increase healthcare capacity and meet the ongoing needs of low-income communities within the Asia-Pacific Region. Local surgeons and health professionals are supported through professional development, ongoing mentoring, as well as training provided by volunteer specialists.

Increasing capacity for diagnosis, treatment and care through the provision of vital medical equipment and supplies.

Providing specialist health services and/or training in Timor-Leste, the Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Micronesia, Nauru, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Myanmar and Indonesia.

The Foundation for Surgery relies on donations and bequests to continue to support children, families and communities to live their healthiest lives. All fundraising costs for the Foundation for Surgery are provided for by the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons so that 100% of your donation achieves its maximum impact in the community.

Your donations, your impact.

Thanks to your generous support this year, together we have achieved the following results...



Your donation, your difference.

Your extraordinary compassion and kindness makes a difference here and throughout the Asia Pacific region.
But don't just take our word for it...

Dr Lance Buckthought was able to enrich his own surgical skills, as well as give back to the community with his Māori SET Trainee One Year Scholarship.

Te Ao Māori (the Māori world) is a big part of my life, the scholarship gave me the means to attend conferences, courses and continue with my mentoring and teaching of Māori students and junior doctors. If you have someone in that position [a mentor] who you can identify with and relate to – who takes down those barriers, you can see yourself getting there... [and] we know that increasing the number of Māori doctors and surgeons results in better outcomes for our Māori patients.

Dr Lance Buckthought

An Otolaryngology Trainee and recipient of the Māori SET Trainee One Year Scholarship

A core element of our work in the Asia Pacific Region is capacity building, training and mentoring of local clinicians to meet the ongoing needs of communities.

I am thankful for this opportunity to learn and upgrade my knowledge while I am taking care of patients, especially for COVID-19 patients.

Pacific Islands Nurse

Participant in the Global Health Nursing Support Surgical Forum

Dr Sepiuta Lopati is working to introduce screening and early intervention for childhood ear disease in her home country.

[In Tonga] there's little awareness or education about ear health, particularly in children... The kids have to come by boat and some of them have had very complicated ear problems... If we have difficult cases and need a team to come to Tonga, we contact the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons. We collect all the patients, and the team stays for a week and operate [with us]. They also give us training and that way we learn more advanced surgical skills.

Dr Sepiuta Lopati

One of the first Tongan based ENT Surgeons, now working with visiting Global Health DFAT funded surgical teams

Dr Arjun Iyer's scholarship enabled him to fine-tune his skills in an internationally recognised institution, which he hopes will contribute to the establishment of a service in South Australia.

The scholarship was very much about further developing my established skillset, both technically and in decision-making. It provided me with the opportunity to learn from master surgeons.

Dr Arjun Iyer FRACS

A Cardiothoracic Surgeon and recipient of the prestigious RACS Margorie Hooper Travel Scholarship

Thank you!

Without your kindness, generosity and continued support, this important global health, Indigenous health, education and research work would not be possible.

Please consider making a donation today. Your support will help ensure safe, quality surgical care is available when it's needed most. Thank you.

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