

# 2025 Trauma Symposium

Navigating the brain injury spectrum:  
From severe trauma to concussion.

Royal Adelaide Hospital, Adelaide, Australia  
Friday 21 and Saturday 22 November 2025



# 2025 Trauma Symposium



## Event details

Venue: Royal Adelaide Hospital, Adelaide  
CPD hours: 10 (updated for RACS Fellows)

## Sponsors

The Trauma Committee would like to acknowledge and thank the following sponsors:

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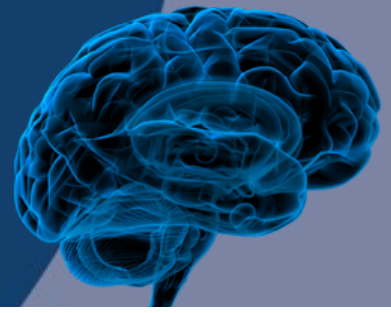


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# 2025 Trauma Symposium



## Message from our Convenors

This year's symposium brings together trauma experts, innovative clinicians, and passionate consumer advocates from across the multidisciplinary care continuum - to examine the full landscape of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) care and recovery, and the profound implications for both the healthcare sector and our community. Our program features dynamic, evidence-based sessions led by national and international leaders in acute TBI, impacts of concussion, neurosurgery and neurocritical care, paediatric and geriatric trauma, acute care nursing and allied health and specialist rehabilitation.

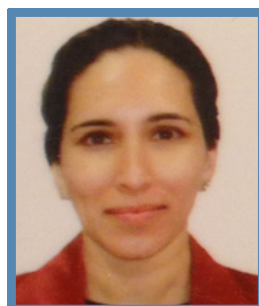
Every session is designed to challenge, inspire, and connect. From fast paced pre-hospital decision making and advanced neuroimaging, to surgical innovation, ICU strategies, and holistic rehabilitation. Consumer voices join clinicians to bring the lived experience of brain injury to centre stage - and every conversation invites new understanding of recovery journeys, persistent challenges, and the vital role of collaborative care.

Whether your interests are to expand your knowledge, hear about cutting-edge research, learn from our consumer experiences, or building trauma system connections, you will find practical insights and real-world solutions. You'll hear about the latest research and innovation - from impacts of coagulopathy and biomarker discovery to TBI and concussion risk-reduction, legal perspectives in sport, rehabilitation pathways and improving outcomes across diverse populations. The program also features rapid-fire research, case studies, and presentations from frontline organisations transforming the future of brain injury care for patients and families.

Whether your expertise is medical, surgical, nursing, allied health, or patient advocacy, this event is designed for the entire trauma community.

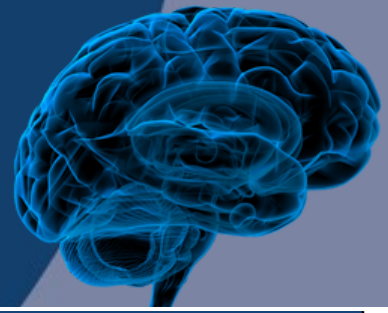
We hope you enjoy the opportunity to connect, share insights, and help drive progress in traumatic brain injury care and be part of shaping the future of trauma at this event.

**Dr Matthew Hope, FRACS, Nicole Kelly, RN, and Dr Shivangi Jog, FRACS**  
2025 RACS Trauma Symposium Convenors



# 2025 Trauma Symposium

## Day one program



### Friday 21 November

| 8:00 - 8:30am   | Registration desk open                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                         |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:30am          | Convene and Acknowledgement of Country<br>Uncle Moogy "Major" Sumner                                                                                                                |                                                                                                         |
| 8:35am          | Welcome from South Australian Trauma System Leadership                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                         |
| 8:45am          | Welcome and thank you to our sponsors: Dr Matthew Hope, FRACS – Chair, RACS Trauma Committee                                                                                        |                                                                                                         |
| 9:00am          | <b>Session 1</b> Session Chair: Dr Matthew Hope, FRACS<br><i>Fast Decisions, lasting impact: Acute Traumatic Brain Injury Management</i>                                            |                                                                                                         |
| Time            | Speaker                                                                                                                                                                             | Presentation topic                                                                                      |
| 9:00 - 9:20am   | <b>Professor Mark Fitzgerald ASM</b><br>Director of Trauma Services, The Alfred<br>Director National Trauma Research Institute<br>Co-Chair Australian & New Zealand Trauma Registry | Setting the scene: Traumatic Brain Injury in Australia.                                                 |
| 9:20 - 9:40am   | <b>Associate Professor Dan Ellis</b><br>Director of Royal Adelaide Hospital Trauma Service, Pre-Hospital and Retrieval Medicine Consultant MedSTAR                                  | Resuscitation and Neuroprotective Measures in the Pre-Hospital, Retrieval and ED setting                |
| 9:40 - 10:00am  | <b>Dr Adam Wells</b><br>Consultant Neurosurgeon, Royal Adelaide Hospital and Clinical Academic                                                                                      | Current Practices and Evidence in the management of Traumatic Brain Injury                              |
| 10:00 - 10:20am | <b>Dr Timothy Webber</b><br>Intensive Care Consultant – Royal Adelaide Hospital                                                                                                     | Pressure Points: ICP, Coagulation and Better Outcomes - ICU Strategies for Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) |
| 10:20 - 10:30am | Questions                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                         |
| 10:30 - 10:50am | Morning tea (20 mins)                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                         |

Program correct as at 17 November 2025. There may be some minor changes at the event.



# 2025 Trauma Symposium

## Day one program



| 10:50am         | <b>Session 2     Session Chair: Associate Professor Alistair Jukes</b><br><i>Scans and Beyond: Advanced Imaging and Unique Populations in Head Trauma</i> |                                                                                                   |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Time            | Speaker                                                                                                                                                   | Presentation topic                                                                                |
| 11:00 - 11:20am | <b>Clinical Associate Professor Meredith Thomas</b><br>Consultant Radiologist – Lead Emergency and Trauma Radiology – Royal Adelaide Hospital.            | A Simple Approach to the Imaging of Complex Traumatic Brain Injury                                |
| 11:20- 11:40am  | <b>Dr Rebecca Scroop</b><br>Consultant Interventional Neuroradiologist - SA                                                                               | The Role of Interventional Neuroradiology in the Management of Acute Traumatic Brain Injury       |
| 11:40 - 12:00pm | <b>Associate Professor Alistair Jukes</b><br>Consultant Paediatric and Adult Neurosurgeon:<br>Open and endovascular Interventionalist                     | How is treatment in children different – what are the considerations?                             |
| 12:00 - 12:20pm | <b>Dr Terry Nash</b><br>Director CAREPACT and Emergency Physician Princess Alexandra Hospital                                                             | Falls, Frailty, and Brain Injury: Navigating Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) in the Aging Population |
| 12:20 - 12:30pm | <b>Questions</b>                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                   |
| 12:30 - 1:10pm  | <b>Lunch (40mins) - Hear from our sponsors</b>                                                                                                            |                                                                                                   |

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# 2025 Trauma Symposium

## Day one program

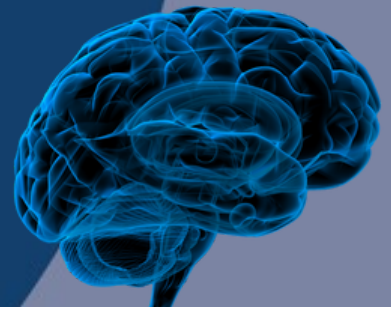


| 1:10pm        | <b>Session 3     Session Chair: Nicole Kelly</b><br><i>Traumatic Brain Injury Uncovered: Challenging Behaviours, Healing Minds, Finding Gaps</i> |                                                                                                                                                        |
|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Time          | Speaker                                                                                                                                          | Presentation topic                                                                                                                                     |
| 1:15 - 1:35pm | <b>Kellie Liersch</b><br>Trauma Clinical Nurse Consultant<br>Royal Melbourne Hospital                                                            | Support for Managing Challenging Traumatic Brain Injury Behaviours in Acute Care:<br>The Brain Injury Squad Initiative at the Royal Melbourne Hospital |
| 1:35 - 2:00pm | <b>Associate Professor Dr Maria Paul</b><br>Senior Consultant - Rehabilitation Medicine. Head of Unit SA Brain Injury Rehab Service (SABIRS)     | Traumatic Brain Injury<br>"Traumatic Brain Injury: What are we missing?"                                                                               |
| 2:00pm        | <i>Through Their Eyes: Patient journeys of TBI recovery and rehabilitation</i>                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                        |
| 2:05 - 2:30pm | <b>Lauren Roffey</b><br>Traumatic Brain Injury survivor<br>CEO <a href="#">The Orange Butterfly Foundation</a>                                   | The Butterfly Effect:<br>Transforming Post-Concussion Challenges into Community Strength                                                               |
| 2:35 - 3:05pm | <b>Georgina's Story</b><br>Poly Trauma and Traumatic Brain Injury Survivor                                                                       | Clinical Case and Patient Journey Presentation                                                                                                         |
| 3:05 - 3:20pm | <b>Questions</b>                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                        |
| 3:20 - 3:40pm | Afternoon tea (20mins)                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                        |

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# 2025 Trauma Symposium

## Day one program



| 3:40pm        | <b>Session 4      Session Chair: Associate Professor Dr Maria Paul</b><br><i>Rebuilding and Restoring Function: Multi-disciplinary care after Traumatic Brain Injury</i> |                                                                   |
|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Time          | Speaker                                                                                                                                                                  | Presentation topic                                                |
| 3:40 - 4:00pm | <b>Anne Gatley</b><br>Senior Speech Pathologist<br>Critical Care, Trauma and Surgical Specialties - Royal Adelaide Hospital                                              | Post Traumatic Amnesia Testing (PTA) and Cognitive Assessments    |
| 4:00 - 4:20pm | <b>Georgina Leov</b><br>Senior Physiotherapist<br>Child and Adolescent Brain Injury Rehabilitation Service - Women's and Children's Hospital                             | Returning to Learning and Sport Post Concussion                   |
| 4:20 - 4:40pm | <b>Tania Straga</b><br>Principal Orthoptist<br>Adelaide Eye Therapy                                                                                                      | Vision Rehabilitation: The Role of Orthoptics in Recovery         |
| 4:40 - 5:00pm | <b>Dr Suja Sukumaran and Dr Yong Kim</b><br>Brain Injury Rehabilitation Consultants<br>SA Brain Injury Rehabilitation Service (SABIRS)                                   | On the Road Again: Navigating Fitness to Drive after Brain Injury |
| 5:00pm        | <b>Questions</b><br><b>Thank you and wrap up of day one – Dr Matthew Hope, FRACS</b>                                                                                     |                                                                   |
| 5:00 - 6:30pm | RACS Bi-National Trauma committee meeting                                                                                                                                |                                                                   |

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# 2025 Trauma Symposium

## Day two program



### Saturday 22 November

| 8:30 - 9:00am   | Registration desk open                                                                                    |                                                                            |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9:00am          | Convene and welcome to day two                                                                            |                                                                            |
| 9:00am          | <b>Session 5      Session Chair : Dr Matthew Hope</b><br><i>Life After the Siren: Concussion in Sport</i> |                                                                            |
| Time            | Speaker                                                                                                   | Presentation topic                                                         |
| 9:00 - 9:25am   | <b>David Maddocks</b><br>Clinical Neuropsychologist and Lawyer                                            | Concussion in Sports: A Clinico-Legal Perspective                          |
| 9:25 - 9:45am   | <b>Dr Elizabeth Clisby</b><br>Sports Physician                                                            | Small Blows, Big Consequences: The Hidden Impact of Repetitive Concussions |
| 9:45 - 10:10am  | <b>Associate Professor Rowena Mobbs</b><br>Clinical Neurologist, Director of Harbour Neurology            | CTE and repetitive Traumatic Brain Injury: An update                       |
| 10:05 - 10:20am | Questions                                                                                                 |                                                                            |
| 10:20 - 10:50am | Morning Tea (30 mins)                                                                                     |                                                                            |

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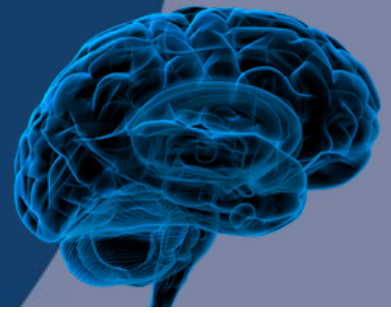
## Day two program



|                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                               |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10:55am                    | Session 6      Session Chair: Professor Mark Fitzgerald<br><i>RAPID FIRE RESEARCH SESSION:<br/>Game Changers in Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI): Emerging Research - Future of TBI and Concussion Risk Reduction, Assessment and Management</i> |                                                                                               |
| Time                       | Speaker                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Presentation topic                                                                            |
| 11:00 - 11:20am            | <b>Professor Mark Fitzgerald ASM</b><br>Director of Trauma Services, The Alfred<br>Director National Trauma Research Institute<br>Co-Chair Australian and New Zealand Trauma Registry                                                        | Major Neurotrauma Research: where we are and where to from here?                              |
| 11:25 - 11:40am            | <b>Simon Austerberry</b><br>CEO of Swaarm Global                                                                                                                                                                                             | Concussion and Traumatic Brain Injury Relative Risk Reduction in Military, Industry and Sport |
| 11:40 - 12:00pm            | <b>Dr Adam Wells</b><br>Consultant Neurosurgeon and Clinical Academic                                                                                                                                                                        | ROTEM Traumatic Brain Injury Study                                                            |
| 12:00 - 12:20pm            | <b>Dr Cynthia Papendick</b><br>Emergency Medicine Consultant<br>Head of Royal Adelaide Hospital Emergency Department Research                                                                                                                | Biomarkers in Traumatic Brain Injury: evidence and potential utility                          |
| 12:20 - 12:40pm            | <b>Research Exchange:</b><br>Open Forum for attendees to share current Research Projects and Ideas for the future                                                                                                                            |                                                                                               |
| 12:40 - 1:00pm             | <b>Symposium Feedback, wrap-up and thank you - Dr Matthew Hope, Nicole Kelly and Shivangi Jog</b>                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                               |
| Symposium concludes at 1pm |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                               |

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## Invited speakers

### **Professor Mark Fitzgerald**

**Director of the National Trauma Research Institute and Director of Trauma Services at The Alfred**



Professor Mark Fitzgerald is Director of the National Trauma Research Institute and Director of Trauma Services at The Alfred. His qualifications are MBBS, University of Melbourne (1981); Fellowship, Australasian College for Emergency Medicine (1987); MD (Research) for 'Computer-Aided Decision Support for Trauma Reception and Resuscitation' Monash University (2015); and Graduate Certificate in Internet Communications, Curtin University (2019).

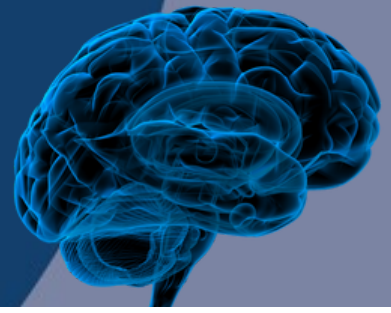
Professor Fitzgerald was a Global Clinical Scholar (Epidemiology and Biostatistics), Harvard Medical School (2014-15).

Professor Fitzgerald has been an Ambulance Victoria Medical Advisor since 1989 and is a member of the Victorian State Trauma Committee. He was awarded the Ambulance Service Medal (ASM), Australia Day Honours (2003); the Foundation Medal, Australasian College for Emergency Medicine (2003), Honorary Life Membership of the Neurotrauma Society of India (2010); and the Gordon Trinca Medal, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (2013).

Professor Fitzgerald has led the establishment of trauma reception, resuscitation and management programs along with Trauma Systems development in Australia, China, India, Myanmar, the Philippines, Saudi Arabia and Sri Lanka. He is co-chair of the Australian New Zealand Trauma Registry.

Professor Fitzgerald's research themes include trauma systems development, clinical care of the severely injured, error reduction and the standardisation of resuscitation care. The development of semi-automated, computer-assisted resuscitation is a career goal. He has delivered 180 major presentations, 243 publications in peer-review journals, 12 book chapters and is a reviewer for multiple medical and surgical journals.

# 2025 Trauma Symposium



## Invited speakers

**Dr Adam Wells, FRACS**

**Consultant Neurosurgeon, Royal Adelaide Hospital and clinical academic**



Dr Adam Wells is an Adelaide Neurosurgeon with interests in brain tumours and traumatic brain injury. He graduated from the University of Adelaide Medical School in 2003 with First Class Honours.

Dr Wells commenced his advanced Neurosurgical training in 2008, and has worked in Adelaide, Hobart, Perth and the United Kingdom. In 2014 he gained his PhD from the University of Adelaide for his original research into ischaemic stroke and was awarded the prestigious Peter Leech Memorial Prize and the Nimmo Prize for full-time research.

In 2017 Dr Wells was the clinical Neurotrauma Fellow at Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge University under the supervision of world-renowned Neurotrauma expert Professor Peter Hutchinson.

Since returning to South Australia in 2018 Dr Wells has been appointed as Senior Clinical Lecturer at the University of Adelaide, Clinical Academic Consultant Neurosurgeon at the new Royal Adelaide Hospital, and Visiting Medical Officer at St Andrew's Private Hospital. He is currently the Abbie Simpson Clinical Fellow of the Neurosurgical Research Foundation and the lead for Neurosurgical Research at the University of Adelaide.

# 2025 Trauma Symposium



## Invited speakers

### **Associate Professor Rowena Mobbs**

**Clinical neurologist, Director of Harbour Neurology**



Associate Professor Rowena Mobbs is a clinical neurologist Director of Harbour Neurology, and VMO at Mater Hospital Sydney, working in the field of chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE) and other dementia subtypes.

As an advocate she presented alongside her patient and rugby league legend Wally Lewis AM at the National Press Club, resulting in a \$12.5 million investment by the Federal Government to "tackle CTE". She is a collaborator with Dementia Australia, and chief medical advisor to ConneCTers Australia. Her research at the Queensland Brain Institute is aimed at biomarker discovery and clinical management in traumatic encephalopathy syndrome.

### **Dr Elizabeth Clisby**

**Sports Physician**

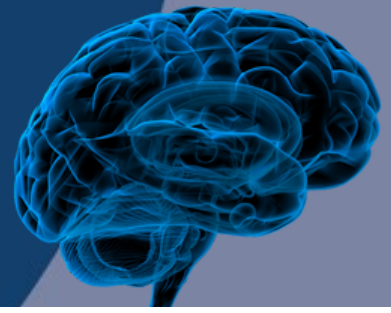


Dr Clisby is a Fellow of both the Australasian College of Sport and Exercise Physicians and the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, and holds a Diploma of Sports Medicine from the University of London.

With more than 25 years of clinical experience, she has worked extensively across elite sport and acute trauma. Dr Clisby has served as Medical Officer for the Opals (Australian Women's Basketball Team) and the Adelaide Thunderbirds (Women's Netball Team), contributed to athlete care at the Sydney Olympic Village, and currently provides medical services to Tennis Australia and international tournaments.

She consults at Wakefield Sports and Exercise Medicine Clinic, with clinical interests in musculoskeletal injuries of the shoulder, foot, and ankle. Dr Clisby also holds a Visiting Sports Physician Specialist position at Noarlunga Hospital, home to South Australia's only public Sports Medicine Clinic.

# 2025 Trauma Symposium



## Invited speakers

**Associate Professor Daniel Ellis**  
**Director of Trauma, Royal Adelaide Hospital**



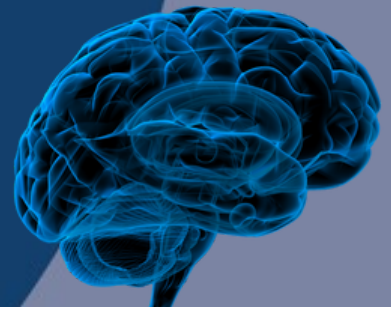
Associate Professor Daniel Ellis is the Director of Trauma at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and the Co-Chair of the Statewide South Australian Trauma System.

He was previously Clinical Director of MedSTAR – the Emergency Medical Retrieval Service. As well as the Trauma role, he also works as a Pre-Hospital & Retrieval consultant with MedSTAR, as an Intensivist in Calvary healthcare and as a consultant in the Royal Adelaide Emergency Department.

Dan has worked in critical care in Australia and the UK for 25 years. He is involved in an extensive portfolio of Trauma Research and has just published the 2nd Edition of his textbook in Pre-hospital and Retrieval Medicine.

He holds Academic appointments with University of Adelaide, Flinders University and James Cook University, Queensland.

# 2025 Trauma Symposium



## Invited speakers

### Nicole Kelly

**Trauma Service Nursing Director, Royal Adelaide Hospital**



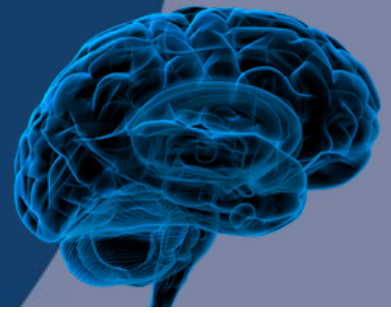
Nicole Kelly is the Trauma Service Nursing Director at the Royal Adelaide Hospital (CALHN) and Co-Lead of the South Australian Trauma System.

With more than 23 years experience in emergency and trauma nursing, Nicole's leadership includes roles as Board Director for both the Australian and New Zealand Trauma Society (ANZTS) and ANZTR Trauma Registry, and active involvement with the College of Emergency Nurses Australasia (CENA) and the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) Trauma Committee.

She is a Senior EMST Coordinator and also a member of the RACS Trauma Verification Review Team. Nicole has contributed to quality improvement across trauma services, notably leading the development of the Trauma Nurse Case Manager role and models of care in SA, as well as coordinating the Statewide Trauma Verification Project. Her expertise encompasses operational and strategic management, injury surveillance, education and system performance.

In 2024, Nicole received the SA Nursing Midwifery Award for Excellence in Leadership and Governance, reflecting her dedication to advancing trauma care through collaboration, quality improvement, and injury prevention.





## Invited speakers

**Kellie Liersch**

**Trauma Clinical Nurse Consultant**



Kellie has an extensive nursing career with majority of her time working across various areas at The Royal Melbourne Hospital such as Orthopaedics, Reconstructive Plastics and Head and Neck Oncology and as a Clinical Nurse Educator. The last 10 years has seen Kellie working as a Trauma Clinical Nurse Consultant.

As Trauma CNC, Kellie has expertise in trauma clinical practice, leadership and evidence-based trauma nursing. She works with the medical, nursing and multi-disciplinary team to manage all clinical aspects of patient trauma care from admission to discharge. Kellie remains passionate about trauma education, teaching and mentoring the next generation of nurses to develop and maintain high standards of trauma healthcare.

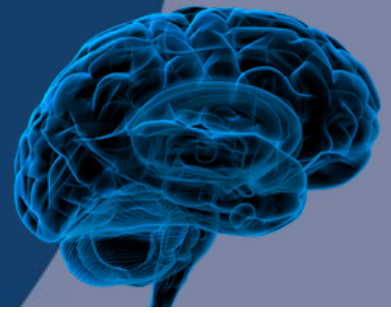
Kellie extends her trauma education and coordination roles in facilitating the P.A.R.T.Y program for young offenders at RMH and is an EMST coordinator.

Kellie is a study coordinator for research trials including PATCH and FEISTY II and is involved in quality improvement activities to cover all aspects of trauma care including writing and reviewing trauma guidelines. Kellie has published a report “Prevalence and Risk factors of constipation in trauma patients: A prospective cohort study” in Journal of Trauma Nursing, 2024.

Kellie was recognised at the 2025 Excellence in Nursing Wards and was the recipient of the RMH Nurse of the Year - Clinical award for her work and passion in caring for patients with Traumatic Brain Injury.



# 2025 Trauma Symposium



## Invited speakers

### **Clinical Associate Professor Meredith Thomas**

**Unit Head, Emergency and Trauma Imaging at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and Clinical Director, Everlight Radiology**



Meredith Thomas is Unit Head, Emergency and Trauma Imaging, at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and a Clinical Director at Everlight Radiology.

After working in General Practice and as an Emergency clinician for 10 years, she completed radiology training in South Australia, with fellowships in MRI and Women's Imaging. She is a general radiologist, with particular interests in emergency and trauma radiology, medical administration and medical education.

She has Masters degrees in Medical Administration and Health Professions Education and is a Past Chief Censor of RANZCR and an Associate Fellow of the College of Medical Administration. She is a founding and Executive Member of the Australia and New Zealand Emergency Radiology Group.

### **Tania Straga**

**Principal orthoptist at Adelaide Eye Therapy in Dulwich**



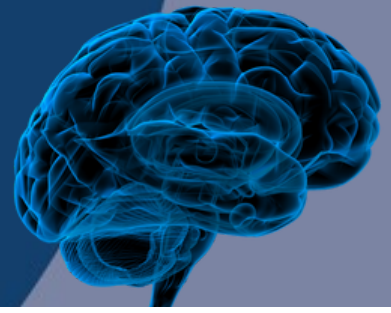
Tania is an experienced orthoptist, having worked in both public and private practice over the last 22 years. She has extensive experience in both paediatric and adult eye movement problems, and is passionate about providing a goal focused, patient centred approach.

She has a special interest in strabismus, eye movement, eye coordination, concussion, and brain injury related eye problems.

She works with patients to improve their overall binocular vision control, which can aid in improving symptoms of headache, eyestrain, dizziness, double vision, and disequilibrium. Tania works closely with ophthalmologists, neurologists, neurophysiotherapists and rehabilitation consultants to optimise patient outcomes in the longer term.

Tania is the principal orthoptist at Adelaide Eye Therapy in Dulwich, and she has a public appointment at the Modbury Hospital. She has volunteered with Sight for All, in the area of training of orthoptists in developing countries.

# 2025 Trauma Symposium



## Invited speakers

**David Maddocks**

**Lawyer and clinical neuropsychologist**



David has been practising as a lawyer in medical law for over 25 years. In 1996, he won the Supreme Court Exhibition Prize for his Honours Thesis on serious injury claims in Victoria. He is co-Chair of the Law Institute of Victoria (LIV) Sports Law Committee. He is an LIV accredited specialist lawyer in personal injury. He is a Director on the Board of Cricket Australia.

As a clinical neuropsychologist, he worked in the brain injury rehabilitation unit at the Epworth Hospital for many years dealing with predominately motor vehicle accident victims.

He commenced research into the neuropsychological effects of concussion in sport in the mid-1980's. In 1996, he completed a Ph.D. (Medicine), from the University of Melbourne, investigating the cognitive effects and recovery after concussion in Australian Rules footballers. Aspects of his research have been adopted by international sporting organisations and incorporated into the various editions of the Sport Concussion Assessment Tool (SCAT). He has been a co-author of International Consensus Statements on Concussion in Sport.

**Dr Terry Nash**

**Director CAREPACT and Emergency Physician PAH**



Dr Terry Nash a clinician-researcher dedicated to improving emergency care for people living in residential aged care, delivering hospital-equivalent responses that prioritise dignity, comfort, and clinical appropriateness. Working across the Princess Alexandra Hospital Emergency Department and as Director of CAREPACT, Terry supports rapid assessment and outreach models that reduce unnecessary hospital transfers.

Their research focuses on system design, cognitive vulnerability, and supported decision-making to improve outcomes for frail older adults. With a commitment to integrated care, Terry bridges emergency medicine, palliative care, and aged care to ensure responses align with what matters most to the person.



## Invited speakers

**Anne Gatley**

**Senior Speech Pathologist, Royal Adelaide Hospital**



Anne is a Senior Speech Pathologist with the Central Adelaide Local Health Network (CALHN) in the areas of Critical Care, Trauma and Surgical Specialities.

Over the past decade, Anne has been instrumental in the establishment and development of the Post Traumatic Amnesia (PTA) service at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. Her work has ensured that this vulnerable patient population are discharged safely and linked with crucial rehabilitative and follow up services.

With extensive experience in acute and critical care of Neurosurgical and Trauma populations, Anne's recognised expertise in the assessment and management of mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI) has cemented her role in the RAH Trauma Service. As the primary Allied Health representative on the Trauma Committee, Anne contributes to complex case management and audits, and delivers education and training to rotating medical staff. In 2023 Anne was awarded a Leadership Award in the CALHN Allied Health Excellence Awards for her work within the trauma service.

Beyond mTBI, Anne provides clinical leadership within the CALHN Speech Pathology Department with senior oversight for the Critical Care, Trauma and Surgical Specialities team. She provides training for junior clinicians to achieve extended competency in the areas of tracheostomy management and fiberoptic endoscopic evaluation of swallowing (FEES).

Anne actively manages the RAH data for the Global Tracheostomy Collaborative, benchmarking CALHN's tracheostomy practices against internationally recognised standard. She is a regular guest lecturer for the Adelaide University MBBS program, educating the next generation of doctors about the key role of Allied Health and multidisciplinary practices.

# 2025 Trauma Symposium



## Invited speakers

**Lauren Roffey (nee Spear)**  
**CEO of The Orange Butterfly Foundation**



Lauren Roffey is the CEO of The Orange Butterfly Foundation, a South Australian non-profit dedicated to improving the quality of life for individuals living with concussion and brain injury. With a background in education and personal lived experience of brain injury, Lauren brings both professional insight and deep empathy to her leadership.

Under her guidance, the foundation supports the brain injury community through education, advocacy, financial assistance, and inclusive community events. Lauren is a passionate voice for greater awareness and understanding, challenging the misconceptions and stigma that often surround invisible injuries.

**Dr Maria Paul**  
**Senior Rehabilitation Physician and Head of Unit for the South Australian Brain Injury Rehabilitation Service (SABIRS)**



Dr Maria Paul is a Senior Rehabilitation Physician and Head of Unit for the South Australian Brain Injury Rehabilitation Service (SABIRS) at the Repatriation Health Precinct, Central Adelaide Local Health Network (CALHN).

She has over two decades of experience as a Consultant in Rehabilitation Medicine, with specialised expertise in acquired brain injury rehabilitation. Dr Paul has previously served as Chair of the Statewide Rehabilitation Clinical Network and Director of Rehabilitation for CALHN.



# 2025 Trauma Symposium



## Invited speakers

### **Associate Professor Alistair Jukes, FRACS**

#### **Consultant paediatric and adult neurosurgeon**



A/Prof Alistair Jukes is an Australian-trained Adult and Paediatric Neurosurgeon with fellowships in both open vascular and endovascular neurosurgery. He trained at the Royal Adelaide, Women's and Children's, Flinders, and Royal Prince Alfred Hospitals.

He was the Recipient of the NRF Abbie-Simpson Skull Base Fellowship and completed his PhD in Endoscopic Skull Base Surgery at the University of Adelaide under Professor PJ Wormald and Professor Alkis Psaltis. Following the awarding of FRACS, he completed the Drake Neurovascular Fellowship in London, Canada specialising in open and endovascular neurosurgery.

He currently has appointments at the Royal Adelaide Hospital, Adelaide Women's and Children's Hospital, Flinders Medical Centre, and The Memorial Hospital. He sees patients with a wide variety of conditions including brain tumours, vascular pathologies such as aneurysms and arteriovenous malformations, spinal disease, and general neurosurgery.

Dr Jukes is also an Associate Professor at the University of Adelaide and is involved in multiple research projects. Additionally he is a Royal Australian Air Force Specialist Reserve Medical Officer.

### **Georgie Leov**

#### **Senior physiotherapist, Women's and Children's Hospital, Adelaide**



Georgie is a senior paediatric physiotherapist at the Women's and Children's Hospital in Adelaide where she coordinates the Child and Adolescent Brain Injury Rehabilitation Service (CABIRS), helping children and adolescents recover from mild to moderate brain injuries.

Passionate about the promotion of concussion education and up to date research, she is a part of the South Australian Sports Medicine Association Education Working Party, and volunteers as a junior girls football coordinator at community level.



## Invited speakers

**Dr Timothy Webber**

**Intensive Care Consultant, Royal Adelaide Hospital**



Dr Tim Webber is an Adelaide trained Intensivist currently working at the Royal Darwin Hospital and Royal Adelaide Hospitals with clinical and research interests focusing on the acute management of traumatic brain injury and neurocritical care.

He completed specialist training in intensive care medicine through the College of Intensive Care Medicine and has developed extensive experience in managing severe trauma within high-acuity and resource-variable environments.

Tim is completing a PhD with Adelaide University looking at "novel pathophysiology and therapeutics in acute brain injury", including approaches to intracranial pressure control, cerebral perfusion optimisation, and the evolving role of hyperosmolar therapy.

His recent work includes investigation into sodium ascorbate and hypertonic saline strategies and their impact on cerebral physiology in pre-clinical models of intra-cranial hypertension and subarachnoid haemorrhage





## Sponsors company profiles



SWAARM exemplifies business excellence through its commitment to player safety, product innovation, and ethical practices. With over seven years of dedicated Research & Development, the company created Advanced Armour—a patented breakthrough in protection technology that sets new safety benchmarks in contact sports, significantly reducing concussion and soft-tissue injuries.

What distinguishes SWAARM is the priority afforded to research and development, combining advanced biomechanical engineering and testing with feedback from elite professionals across various industries and engagement of multiple local and international universities to ensure continual growth and performance.

In 2025, SWAARM was invited into the Virginia Tech Blast Lab to collaborate and help solve the major issue of blast wave exposure in military personnel. Major advancements in measurement, analysis, and ultimately reduction in exposure are just the beginning as SWAARM looks to revolutionise the way we protect those who protect us.

More than a manufacturer, SWAARM is a trailblazer redefining the future of safety, driven by a mission of continuous innovation and collaboration, SWAARM plays a crucial role in protecting the wellbeing of military personnel exposed to blast waves across the globe.



## Sponsors company profiles

# ACTUAL REHAB

Actual Rehab is a community-based Rehabilitation Provider, born in South Australia in 2019. Since inception, the company has grown to nearly 300 practitioners working throughout South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, and Tasmania.

Our team of experts include Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Psychologists, Exercise Physiologists, Rehabilitation Counsellors, and Social Workers who all work to better the lives of the clients we support in various legislative environments. Our team is agile, working in remote communities as well as metro locations, ensuring that clients are provided with the best care, regardless of their geographical location.

Actual Rehab is proud to sponsor this year's Trauma Symposium as we see enormous value in the knowledge sharing amongst the health community and appreciate the tireless work undertaken by those in this arena.

Visit the website: <https://actualrehab.com.au/>



MDA National is a doctor-owned Medical Defence Organisation supporting over 46,000 Australian doctors since 1925. For 100 years, we've provided expert medico-legal protection and career-long support. Owned by doctors, for doctors, we exist to safeguard our Members' reputations and promote good medical practice across Australia.



## Sponsors company profiles



### **BLOOD-BASED BIOMARKERS OF MILD TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY (MTBI) GFAP & UCH-L1**

Alinity i TBI is the first lab-based blood test to empower physicians with an objective approach to aid in ruling out the presence of intracranial lesions<sup>1</sup>



**Reference:**

1. Alinity i TBI H22914R01. Instructions for use. Abbott Ireland Diagnostics Division, Sligo, Ireland, October 2021

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# RACS Annual Scientific Congress

**Thursday 30 April to Sunday 3 May 2026**

**Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre**

The theme, The Art and Science of Collaboration, sets the tone for an inspiring, future focused program that unites surgeons, scientists, innovators, and thought leaders across the surgical and healthcare ecosystem. The Congress will feature many opportunities to build professional portfolios and acquire CPD points across all domains, to support lifelong learning and holistic professional growth.

Held over a weekend, the ASC 2026 features a format designed to enhance interdisciplinary collaboration through a mix of individual and combined sessions, providing a more integrated experience for all participants.

Start planning your ASC 2026 experience by visiting the [ASC 2026 Website](https://asc.surgeons.org/) to register, view the provisional program, and submit an abstract to this landmark event.

Early bird registration with discounted rates is available until Sunday 15 March 2026.

Find out more here: <https://asc.surgeons.org/>





## Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Australian and New Zealand Audits of Surgical Mortality

### BACKGROUND

The Australian and New Zealand Audit of Surgical Mortality (ANZASM) is an independent, external peer review of surgical mortality in all states and territories of Australia.

Each audit of surgical mortality is funded by its state or territory department of health (as is the case for Western Australia, South Australia, Victoria, Queensland, Northern Territory, Tasmania, and Australian Capital Territory) and is managed by the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS). The Collaborating Hospitals Audit of Surgical Mortality (CHASM) in New South Wales provides comparable data to ANZASM, independently managed by the Clinical Excellence Commission of New South Wales.

ANZASM is a 'quality assurance activity' under the Commonwealth Qualified Privilege (QP) scheme.

Feedback in both individual and grouped formats is produced. Individual feedback is provided to individual surgeons and aggregate data is disseminated to all hospitals. All surgeons and both public and private hospitals participate.

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons  
Australian and New Zealand  
Audits of Surgical Mortality

#### National Case Note Review Booklet

LESSONS FROM  
THE AUDIT

VOLUME 32  
AUGUST 2025

Royal Australasian  
College of Surgeons



The Royal Australian  
and New Zealand  
College of Obstetricians  
and Gynaecologists



ANZASM National Case Note Review Booklets are published throughout the year. The review aims to identify any system or process issues and develop strategies to address these.



ANZASM

*Case of  
the month*

The ANZASM Case of the Month is distributed monthly, [click here](#) to read the case note reviews.



ANZASM

*Events*

ANZASM host bi-monthly webinars open to all medical professionals and relevant to all surgical specialties.



Visit the [ANZASM website](#)  
for more information





Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

# Foundation for Surgery



Help support the Foundation for Surgery to strive for a world where all children, families, and communities can access quality surgical care when it is needed.

You can support by providing donations that will fund:

- Visiting medical teams to travel to island nations in the Indo-Pacific region and perform life saving surgeries
- Grants and other activities that will assist more Australian First Nation and Aotearoa New Zealand Maori People to become surgeons
- Research scholarships and learning and development grants
- Initiatives to improve surgical care in rural and remote regions.

You may also wish to donate equipment no longer needed for our extensive Global Health program

**Donate now at [www.surgeons.org/Foundation-for-Surgery](http://www.surgeons.org/Foundation-for-Surgery) or contact the Foundation at [foundation@surgeons.org](mailto:foundation@surgeons.org)**





## RACS 2026 Professional Development courses

RACS Professional Development 2026 courses are now open for registration.

Our courses include:

- Educator Studio Sessions.
- Foundation Skills for Surgical Educators
- Sustainability in surgery.
- Plus more.

All Professional Development Program activities are Continuing Professional Development (CPD) accredited and incorporate one or more of the RACS Competencies.

For more information on our courses and to register, visit the Professional Development page on our website.

<https://www.surgeons.org/education/professional-development>





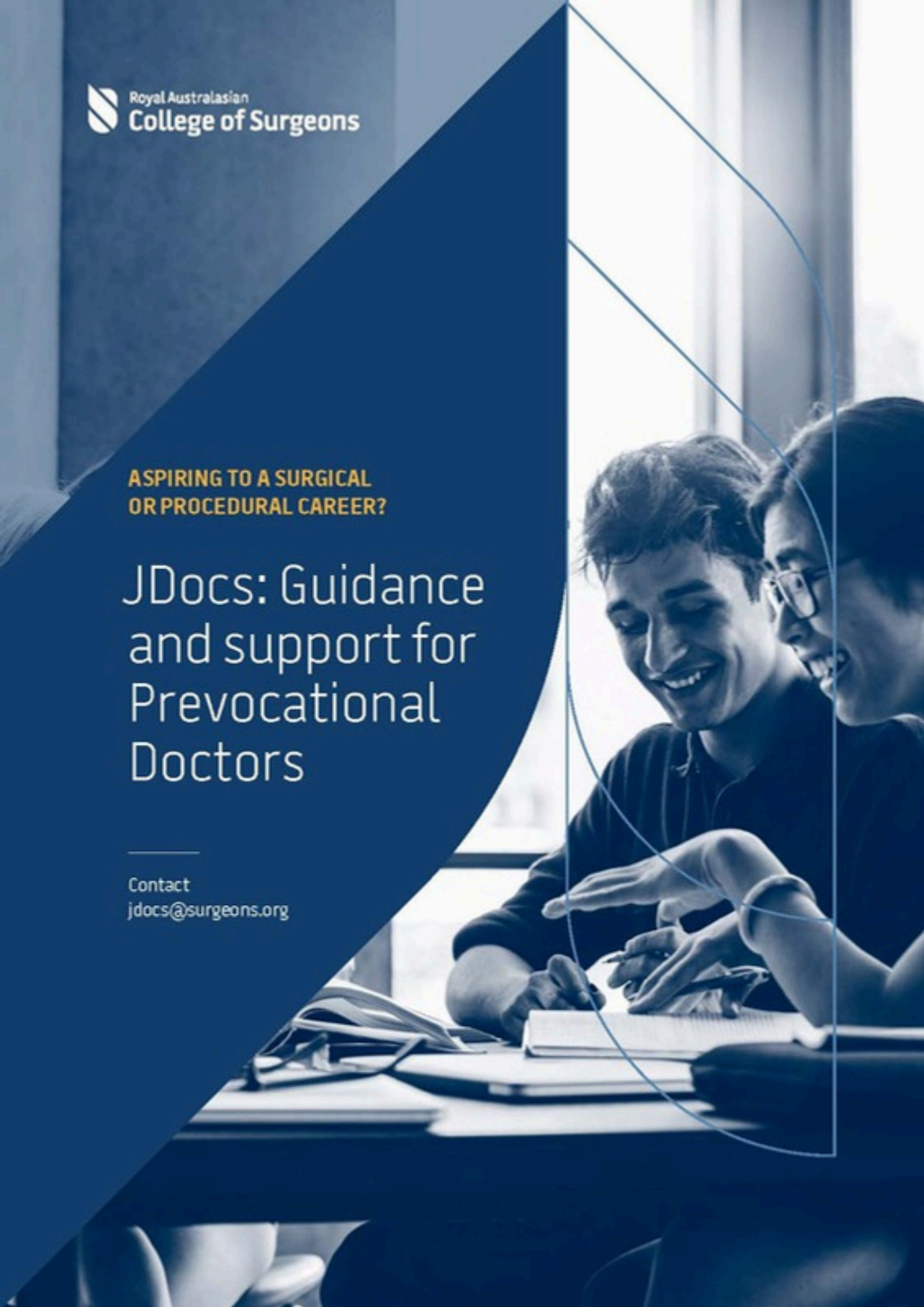
Royal Australasian  
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**ASPIRING TO A SURGICAL  
OR PROCEDURAL CAREER?**

# JDocs: Guidance and support for Prevocational Doctors

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Contact  
[jdocs@surgeons.org](mailto:jdocs@surgeons.org)





Are you a newly qualified doctor?



Visit JDocs at [surgeons.org/become-a-surgeon/jdocs-by-races](https://surgeons.org/become-a-surgeon/jdocs-by-races) for guidance on pursuing a career in surgery and find out how the JDocs Framework can support and guide you to better understand the requirements, and expected standards, for application to proceduralist specialty training.

Subscribe to JDocs to the ePortfolio (<https://jdocs.surgeons.org/subscribing-jdocs>) to access educational resources and assessment tools through the ePortfolio, developed for the JDocs Framework, that support self-directed prevocational doctors.

How will access to the JDocsePortfolio benefit you as a prevocational doctor?

Engagement with the ePortfolio will enable you to progressively assemble evidence of your achievements, work-based assessments and experiences, which can help support your application to proceduralist specialty training, including surgery.

Interested in pursuing a career in procedural medicine?



Subscribing to JDocs gives you access to:

- Generic Surgical Science Examination resources and MCQ bank
- Selected library resources
- eLearning resources
- [MALT](http://www.surgeons.org/malt) ([www.surgeons.org/malt](http://www.surgeons.org/malt)), an online surgical skills logbook
- Online Key Clinical Tasks

You will be able to:

- Determine your current level of skills and knowledge against the JDocs Framework (self-assessment or supervisor sign-off)
- Develop your professional profile
- Upload your own personal documents and store them in the ePortfolio, and
- Generate a report that documents your career achievements, assessment and experiences that can support your application to proceduralist specialty training, including surgery.

Unsure of the requirements for specialty training?



For an overview of the [RACS Selection Process and Surgical Education Training \(SET\) program](#), the *Guide to SET - An Overview of Selection and Training* provides a wealth of information about the RACS SET selection process and training program - an essential reference for SET applicants and Trainees.

Also available:

- Free access to surgical skills videos used in the [RACS ASSET course](#)
- Essential surgical skills document
- Free resources including RACS apps
- Essential Surgical Skills Kits for purchase (<http://jdocs.surgeons.org/essential-surgical-skills-kit>)

Medical students can access selected free resources, Key Clinical Tasks, RACS apps, surgical videos, essential surgical skills document and purchase an Essential Surgical Skills Kit to start practicing technical skills now!

# Thank you!

This event was made possible through the support of:

- Trauma Symposium Chairs, Nicole Kelly, Dr Matthew Hope, FRACS and Shivangi Jog, FRACS.
- RACS staff: David Watson (Policy and Standards Lead, Professional Standards), Mark Morgan (SA, WA and NT Manager), Gabriella Roccioletti (Member Engagement Officer), Claire Aldham (Marketing Specialist) and Rebecca Clancy (Professional Standards Manager).
- Our sponsors.
- Royal Adelaide Hospital and SA State Trauma System (TraumaSA)
- RACS bi-national trauma committee members.

We thank everyone involved for their contribution to planning and delivering the Trauma Symposium.



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