

RACS SA, WA & NT ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING 2019

Robots in Surgery - Tsunami or just the next wave?

5 - 7 September 2019

Port Lincoln Hotel, Port Lincoln, South Australia

PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

INVITATION

Dear Colleagues,

Robots and other computer-aided surgical technologies are rapidly invading our operating theatres and threaten to displace traditional 'human' techniques in many surgical disciplines. Join us in 'the seafood capital of Australia', Port Lincoln, as we explore the impact of these new technologies on surgery as we know it - or should that be 'as we knew it?'

Just as Port Lincoln has come a long way since being named by Matthew Flinders in 1802, settled in 1839, and then developed into the 'tuna industry-led millionaire capital of Australia', robots and other computer-aided technologies have rapidly gained a foothold in our modern surgical practice. They have been riding a wave of enthusiasm of Tsunami proportions and threaten to swamp the tried and tested techniques handed down from previous generations of 'manual' surgeons. Are we in danger of replacing the traditional qualities associated with being a good surgeon - the eye of an eagle, the heart of a lion and the hand of a lady - with a GPS localisation device, the logic of an intel processor and a claw with 7 degrees of freedom? Can we learn from our mistakes of the past, when we dived head first into laparoscopic surgery, only to discover that 'to he with a hammer, not everything he sees is a nail'? How should these new technologies be learnt, taught, introduced, evaluated, funded and regulated?

Port Lincoln provides us a beautiful coastal setting with beaches, national parks and the entertainment and sustenance of the Eyre Peninsula, and the pristine waters of Spencer Gulf. I am looking forward to meeting up with you and colleagues from South Australia, Western Australia and the Northern Territory from the 5 to 7 September 2019. I invite you to learn, laugh, relax and enjoy the SA, WA, NT tri-state ASM, in conjunction with the Anstey Giles Lecture to be delivered by our current South Australian of the Year, Dr Richard 'Harry' Harris, and the annual SAASM Symposium **'Navigating safe patient transfers: What can go wrong?'**

Warm regards,



Mr Phil Worley

Chair, SA Regional Committee, RACS



Photo credit: Hortas Restaurant



Photo credit: Rodney Fox Shark Expeditions

Annual Scientific Meeting

PORT LINCOLN HOTEL

THURSDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2019

SAASM SYMPOSIUM

4:00pm - 6:00pm **Topic: Navigating safe patient transfer: What can go wrong?**

7:00pm **Welcome to the Eyre Peninsula and Port Lincoln Event showcasing local produce, seafood and wines**
Poolside - Port Lincoln Hotel

FRIDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2019

Welcome to Country

A tsunami has five general stages: initiation, split, amplification, drawdown and run-up.

Session 1 The Initiation

The Past: The history of implementing new techniques into the surgical armamentarium.
What can we learn from shipwrecks of the past? Navigating uncharted waters. The history of robots in surgery.

Session 2 The Split

The Present: How I do it.
Tips for catching the perfect wave. Speakers from a variety of surgical speciality areas, followed by a panel discussion.

Session 3 The Amplification

The Future: What's the next wave over the horizon and how do we fund them?
Artificial Intelligence in Surgery - hope, hype or here already? Are we still learning to swim or already riding the wave of success?

Session 4 The Drawdown

Free papers and RP Jepson Medal and Justin Miller Prize

Conference dinner & Anstey Giles Lecture

'Line & Label' restaurant

6:30pm for 7:00pm (Bus from hotel at 6:15pm and return at 10:45pm)

Anstey Giles lecture delivered by Dr Richard 'Harry' Harris. Title: 'Anaesthesia in the Dark - The Tham Luang Cave Rescue'

SATURDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2019

Session 5 The Run-up

Drowning in red tape - how to get new techniques accredited.
Rural and regional robots. - how to access a boat and then get your boat licence.
When is it safe to remove the floaties? How to gain one's sea legs - the learning curve of new technologies.
Medico-legal undertows - how to avoid the unseen rips?
Charging for our expertise with new technologies - should we 'swim between the flags'?
Shark tank - who would put their money where your mouth is?

Session 6 The Wash up

Securing a technologically up to date surgical workforce for Rural and regional Australia - how wide do we cast our net?
National Rural Health Commissioner

The Great Debate
'It's the procedures that Australian surgeons reject that make Australian surgeons the best!'
How to sort the whiting from the whitebait.
What's best - past, present or future?

Closure of meeting 12:30pm



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