

THE MOLE

FATES PILOT IN TASMANIA

Creating sustainable career pathways
and a homegrown workforce

CULTURE OF MEDICINE

A multi-faceted engagement
strategy to address
long-standing issues

ASM55 Wrap up Vivid from opening to close



From the editor

This issue of *The Mole* highlights our flagship event of the year, the 55th Annual Scientific Meeting. Thank you to all members who attended in person, it was lovely to see such a big turn out and I hope you enjoyed the chance to get together with colleagues to network, socialise and discuss the latest advances for our profession.

As part of our workforce advocacy, College is pleased to have been awarded funding under the Federal Government's Flexible Approach

to Training in Expanded Settings (FATES) program for a training and rural transition pilot in Tasmania. This complements College's existing pilot programs in Darwin and Townsville and an update on the Tasmania project and Top End project are detailed in this issue.

We are almost at the halfway mark of the first year of our new CPD program. The CPD session at the ASM was well attended and gave Fellows the opportunity to ask questions about the program. If you missed the session, read all

about it in this issue.

Applications have been extended until 30 June for the 2023 Scientific Research Fund and the winner of the EAA Grant has been announced. Turn to the research section to find out who the recipient is.

I thank all contributors to this edition and hope to see more members sharing their stories in future editions.

Dr Anousha Yazdabadi
Honorary Secretary

EDITORIAL TEAM

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Dr Anousha Yazdabadi
Honorary Secretary

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Australasian College of Dermatologists acknowledges the Cammeraygal people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands upon which the College head office is located. The College also acknowledges and pays respect to the Traditional Custodians of the lands upon which Australian dermatology services are delivered, and Elders past and present.

Disclaimer: The Australasian College of Dermatologists wishes to encourage debate and exchanges of ideas amongst Fellows through *The Mole*. Nevertheless, the opinions expressed in articles in *The Mole* are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of the College. The inclusion of advertising in this publication does not constitute College endorsement of the products or services advertised.



THE AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE
OF DERMATOLOGISTS

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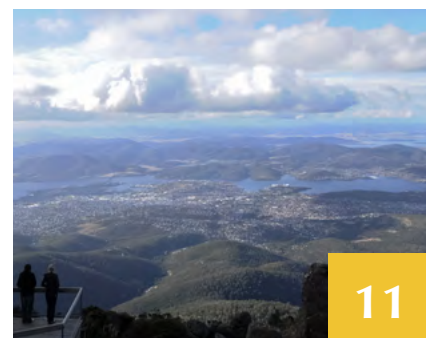
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Immediate Past-President's report

I am writing my final President's report as we make the last minute preparations for the ASM in Sydney and the Annual General Meeting on 31 May. These two events are the culmination of a great deal of work by Fellows and College staff and the latter heralds the beginning of Dr Adriene Lee's term as President, Dr Adrian Lim's term as President-Elect and the end of Dr Ben Carew's 3 year term on the Board. Dr Carew has made a particular contribution through his commitment to our external education and the work of Dermatology Australasia and I thank him for his expertise and energy. We are delighted to welcome Prof Kiarash Khosrotehrani to the Board as Dr Carew's replacement.

I am indebted to all Board members, Dr Catherine Drummond, Dr Eleni Yiasemides, Mr Phillip Hyde, Ms Genevieve Dolan, Dr Ben Carew and of course Dr Adriene Lee. We have had strong opinions and robust debate around the Board table. With the gift of individuals who are excellent listeners and have remained focused on the Strategic Plan, we have managed to achieve consensus around decisions that I hope have guided our work to the benefit of all our stakeholders.

Work around the next Strategic Plan 2024-2027 is underway and Fellows will be consulted about this

later in the year. Your feedback in the Membership Survey has helped inform our priorities, and much of our focus will remain unchanged with College's Mission, Vision and overall aims still highly relevant. Workforce issues will remain a top priority, both absolute numbers and geographic distribution, as well as ensuring our Training Program continues to foster and support our future Fellows as medical experts, communicators, collaborators, leaders, health advocates, scholars, professionals and culturally responsive practitioners.

For all this we are fortunate to have a skilled and talented team of College staff led by Dr Haley Bennett. I have been very privileged to work alongside such an inspirational and thoughtful leader who has the justified confidence of the Board and staff.

I know that Dr Lee has an unwavering and longstanding commitment to College. Adriene, thank you for all your support, wise words, counsel and friendship both on the Board and for the years before. I wish you all the very best and know that this next stage of College's work will help deliver better outcomes for our members, external partners and most of all our patients.

Dr Clare Tait
Immediate Past-President



President's report

It is with great privilege and honour that I write my first report as President. As a way of introduction, I am a Melbourne based dermatologist and have been fortunate to live in many parts of Australia, having been born in Darwin, lived in Adelaide for a short period before growing up in Canberra and attending university in Sydney. I completed my dermatology training in Victoria and currently work in private practice in Melbourne. I attend clinics at St Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne and the Skin Health Institute where I pursue my subspecialty interest in Contact Dermatitis. I visit the North Western Regional Hospital in Burnie, Tasmania for an outreach service which I have enjoyed contributing to for the last 16 years. These roles give me the opportunity to interact, teach, supervise and learn from trainees. During my time I have been fortunate to have worked with and been mentored by many outstanding members who have made significant contributions to College and provided me with support, guidance and inspiration.

I have been a member of College committees since graduating in 2005, including the International Medical Graduate Committee, the Teaching, Learning and Curriculum Committee and in my role as Director of Training in Victoria, the National Training Committee.

I chaired that Committee before commencing as Dean of Education in 2018 prior to my role as President-Elect. I have chaired the STP Taskforce and been a member of the Workforce Committee, Nominations and Governance Committee and Audit and Risk Committee. I sat on the Victorian Faculty Executive and have a keen interest in teaching and training. In 2022 I became a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. I hope to use my experience and knowledge gained over the coming years and am grateful for the skills and support my fellow Board members bring, the sage advice and input of many Fellows and the support and hard work of our College executive, so capably led by our CEO, Dr Haley Bennett

I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank Dr Clare Tait for her immense contribution and dedication over the last 4 years and more, guiding College through challenging times as we exit the recent pandemic and move forward with our strategic plan. Her tireless efforts, wisdom, thoughtfulness, calmness and leadership have placed our College in an excellent position moving forward, one which I hope to build on in the next 2 years. I also want to acknowledge our outgoing Board Member, Dr Benjamin Carew for his invaluable

contributions to the Board and College over the last 3 years including his work with advancing our external education stream which is continuing to evolve.

I want to congratulate and extend a warm welcome to our two new Board members, Dr Adrian Lim and Prof Kiarash Khosrotehrani. Dr Adrian Lim, our new President-Elect brings a vast level of experience in College, governance and training as a previous Dean of Education and Board Director. I would like to thank the other nominees for the role, Dr Phillip Artemi and Prof Prasad Kumarasinghe – it speaks to the strength of our College membership that such high calibre dedicated dermatologists are willing to give their precious time and efforts - each candidate would have been an excellent addition to our Board.

Our Nominations and Governance Committee has been busy with new Board appointments. The applications for the Board vacancy created by Dr Carew were of such high calibre that we would be fortunate to have any of them join us, each bringing a unique skill set. I want to thank those applicants and hope they will continue to be involved in College activities and join the Board in the future. Prof Khosrotehrani brings a wealth of experience and skills

and I look forward to his wisdom and contributions as he continues to dedicate his valuable time to College following his role as Co-editor of our journal, the Australasian Journal of Dermatology. I look forward to introducing our new Independent Board Director later in the year.

As you read this we will have just completed what I am sure is another successful ASM in Sydney and extend my thanks to Prof H Peter Soyer and Prof Gayle Fischer for their dedication and work over the last two years, as well as Co-convenors Dr Michelle McRae and Dr Li-Chuen Wong, supported by the NSW Faculty. A warm thanks to all speakers and the efforts of our College staff in bringing together such a fantastic meeting.

This year, College is due to put forward a new Strategic Plan. Our Mission and Vision remains the same. Our core business is to educate and train world class dermatologists and foster the future of our College, and we continue to evolve this. We are extending our external education arm to ensure we are the leaders and teachers from undergraduate through to the postgraduate space, and into the community with our community advocacy and engagement work. Our other core business is to provide support and services to our members and this has been particularly important this year with changed CPD requirements and maintaining a key voice in the development of standards and accreditation in cosmetic procedures.

Our biggest challenge is workforce shortage as we strive to address equity of access to dermatology care nationwide and we will continue our tireless efforts here, looking for new and innovative ways to support our Fellows working in regional and remote areas.

For those of you attending the World Congress of Dermatology in Singapore in July, I look forward to seeing you there.

Dr Adriene Lee
President



CEO's report

College's 55th ASM in Sydney was a great success, made all the more special with the lights of the Vivid Festival adding a colourful backdrop. This year's meeting was the most well attended of all ASMs to date and it was an absolute pleasure to see so many Fellows and trainees under one roof. The program, once again expertly steered by Prof Gayle Fischer and Prof H Peter Soyer, demonstrated Australian dermatology at its best. It was also very pleasing to see such a high turnout for the Friday workshops. Thank you to everyone involved in the program, from the conveners, presenters and session chairs - a mammoth effort resulting in an incredibly high-quality and enjoyable event.

I am delighted to announce that College has been successful once again in our efforts to boost training and services in regional Australia, having been awarded Commonwealth funding to support Tasmanian dermatology. The project aims to build a sustainable dermatology service and training hub in Hobart, a rural transition pathway, and foster a homegrown workforce.

This is the third College project

to receive Commonwealth funding in the last 18 months, following on from our ongoing work in Darwin and Townsville. It is valuable recognition from the Federal Government of the important role of College in developing tailored solutions to improve access for regional and rural Australians to much-needed specialist dermatology services. A huge congratulations to Fellows and staff who were integral in this successful application.

Finally, as the term of our current President comes to a close, I must sincerely thank Dr Clare Tait who has been a wonderful President and Board Chair and has made my transition to the role of CEO over the last year an incredibly smooth one. Clare's support and encouragement has been invaluable. I very much look forward to working with our new President Dr Adriene Lee and I welcome our incoming President-Elect Dr Adrian Lim. It is a very exciting time for College and it continues to be a privilege to be part of such an engaged and innovative organisation.

Dr Haley Bennett
Chief Executive Officer

Obituaries

Professor Stephen Lee (AM) 1948 – 2023

WRITTEN BY PROF NICHOLAS STEWART

Born in China in 1948, Prof Lee's parents had the foresight to move to Hong Kong in 1949 just before the Chinese Revolution. During his early years, fate brought him in touch with a Hungarian Australian who would later sponsor his immigration to Australia in 1965. He attended Randwick Boys High School and, after only 3 years of speaking English, he qualified for a Wesley College Scholarship to enter Sydney Medical School, graduating in 1974 with first class honours.

In 1979, Prof Lee passed his DDM qualification at the University of Sydney and became a Fellow of College in 1981. For 37 years he held the position of visiting dermatologist at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital (1982 – 2019), as well as positions at Rachel Forster, Balmain, Ryde and Concord Repatriation Hospitals in Sydney, and the Manning River Hospital in Taree, NSW. In 1996 until 2018, Prof Lee was the Head of the Department of Dermatology at Concord Repatriation Hospital.

Prof Lee contributed tirelessly to College and was the Assistant Honorary Secretary from 1997, becoming the Honorary Secretary in 1999 until 2004. He was the Editor of *The Mole* and Executive Editor of the ACD Annual Report during this period and also served as the inaugural International Affairs Office for College until 2006.

For 12 years, from 2002 until 2014, Prof Lee was the first dermatologist to become a Director and Federal Councillor and Dermatology Representative for the Australian Medical Association, a position he was very passionate about, especially in the area of public health. In recognition for his service to medicine in the field of dermatology as a clinician, mentor and educator, he was appointed Member in the Order of Australia in 2009 and received the Sydney University Wesley Foundation Medal in 2011.

Over 15 years from 2004, Prof Lee was appointed Visiting Professor at the China Medical University, Clinical Associate Professor within Central and Concord Clinical Schools



and Honorary Clinical Associate Professor in the Chinese University of Hong Kong. He was recognised as a Clinical Professor in the Division of Dermatology of Sydney Medical School, a teaching position he held until he retired due to ill health in 2019.

The Royal Prince Alfred Hospital was the birthplace of his medical training and, sadly, it was to be the place where Stephen courageously drew his last breath on Sunday 5 March 2023.

The outpouring of affection and love for Prof Lee has been overwhelming. Particularly from his former trainees, now fully fledged dermatologists, whom at some point along their medical training were touched by his wit, brilliance and passion and his everlasting refrain of "Patients First". ●

Dr John Henry Steele-Smith 1929 - 2023

WRITTEN BY ALICE STEELE-SMITH

Dr John Steele-Smith was a founding member of the Australasian College of Dermatologists and prior to the formation of College had been a member of DAA and BAD.

Dr Steele-Smith was born in 1929 and attended Fort St High School before studying Medicine at Sydney University (then the only university in Sydney). He graduated in 1952.

After graduation he became a Junior Resident Medical Officer at Sydney hospital and in the following years at Concord Repatriation General Hospital where his interest

in dermatology began. In the following years he commenced training for the DDM whilst also working as a General Practitioner and in 1958 to 1960 was Registrar in Dermatology at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital Camperdown NSW.

Having received the DDM in 1960 he commenced practise in dermatology with rooms in Macquarie St Sydney and Belmore St Burwood. He had consultant positions at Sydney Hospital, Concord Repatriation General Hospital, North Ryde Psychiatric Hospital and Auburn Hospital.

During this time Dr Steele-Smith also had a practice in Auburn, Liverpool, Campbelltown and from 1976, in Beecroft. He retired in 1998.

Dr Steele-Smith was a family man and an active member of his Church. He had interests in farming and great joy in many friendships, especially in his local Probus Group.

Dr Steele-Smith passed away on 23 March 2023 and is survived by his wife Alice (also a member of the Australasian College of Dermatologists) and his children and their families. ●



Using our voice to inform and influence the national health policy conversation

As the expert peak and professional body in dermatology, College aims to set the clinical and policy agenda in skin health, advocating for evidence-based health policy, sustainable funding for specialist dermatology services and equitable access to care across the country.

We strive to be recognised as a trusted adviser and first port of call for governments and other organisations seeking expertise on skin health and dermatological care.

CAROLINE ZOERS, DIRECTOR POLICY, ADVOCACY AND ENGAGEMENT
AND ANNIE BYGRAVE, POLICY MANAGER

One of the many ways we do this is by maintaining an active voice among key health policy stakeholders. Participation in consultation processes is an important part of our broader policy and advocacy strategy with the aim of boosting our visibility among government, non-government and other influential health stakeholders.

College has built on its policy and advocacy capacity over the past six years and the high-level of policy activity since 2017 has been sustained. Between 2021 and 2022, College made a total of 87

submissions. Of those, 85% were to the Federal, State or Territory Governments. Seventy-two percent of these government submissions were to the Federal Government. This level of activity has been sustained in 2023 with 27 submissions to governments alone so far this year. Topics have ranged from the key issues of health workforce and access to care; to advertising, cosmetic surgery and other regulatory reforms; to national and jurisdictional plans, strategies and policies for skin cancer, mental health, medicines and climate change to name a few. Other topics included scope of

practice issues, radiation safety and artificial intelligence, as well as Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) Poisons Standard amendments, and Pharmaceutical Benefit Scheme (PBS) and Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) listings. They have also included proactive pre-election and pre-budget submissions to ministers, shadow ministers, members and candidates from all sides.

A number of these submissions, together with College's broader advocacy on a range of issues, have resulted in meetings with ministers and assistant ministers, their advisers and departmental staff providing the opportunity for valuable relationship building.

College has also previously responded to consultations and requests from non-government organisations including the Australian Medical Association (AMA), Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (RANZCR), Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS), National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) and state-based Cancer Councils.

Advocacy is a long game and not without its challenges. While we have seen positive results in terms of our workforce advocacy, other areas have been more challenging

and require ongoing effort.

Our ability to respond to this volume of activity reflects both the growth in College's capacity and the ongoing and tireless work of the many College Fellows who have contributed their time and expertise to informing these submissions, as well as College guidelines, position statements and broader advocacy.

Our particular thanks go to the members of College's Expert Advisory Committee, chaired by A/Prof Stephen Shumack who now steps down from that role. A/Prof Shumack has served as Chair since the Committee's inception in 2017 and has been a tireless source of wisdom, guidance and support. His responsiveness to the many and varied queries that flow in, often with short turnaround times has enabled many a deadline to be met. We look forward to working with Dr Warren Weightman who succeeds him in the role of Chair.

A number of new members have joined the committee in recent months bringing valuable expertise. As we welcome them, we sincerely thank those members who have recently stepped down – Prof H Peter Soyer, Prof Alan Cooper and Prof Kurt Gebauer – for their extensive advice and valued contributions over their many years of service on the Committee.

College has built on its policy and advocacy capacity over the past six years and the high-level of policy activity since 2017 has been sustained.

Expert Advisory Committee

Dr Warren Weightman (Chair)

A/Prof Philip Bekhor

Dr Tony Caccetta

A/Prof David Francis

Dr Esther Hong

A/Prof Patricia Lowe

A/Prof Rosemary Nixon

Department of Health and Aged Care
 National Blood Authority QLD Radiation Health Unit
 Medical Board of Australia Ahpra
 Cancer Institute NSW COAG Health Council
 Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care
 Queensland Health Treasury RACS
 Medicare Services Advisory Committee AMA ACT Health
 Tasmania Health Agency for Clinical Innovation NACCHO
 Therapeutic Goods Administration
 WA Radiological Council Australian Medical Council
 RANZCR Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee

Sample of submissions in the past 6 months:

- Federal Pre-Budget Submission calling for additional training positions and release of White Paper, Accessible and quality dermatology care for all Australians
- Medical Board of Australia's Guidelines for registered medical practitioners who perform cosmetic surgery and procedures; Guidelines for registered medical practitioners who advertise cosmetic surgery; and Registration standard for cosmetic surgery endorsement; standards for cosmetic surgery programs of study and capability statements (developed by the Australian Medical Council).
- Medical Board of Australia - National Scheme accreditation arrangements; Telehealth guidelines; Proposal to recognise genetic pathology as a new field of specialty practice.
- Ahpra: Use of new power to issue public statements; Data Strategy.
- Queensland, Victorian and NSW Premiers and Ministers regarding pharmacist prescribing scope of practice pilots.
- Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Healthcare (ACSQHC) - Review of diagnostic imaging accreditation scheme standards; Sustainable healthcare module cosmetic surgery standards.
- Cancer Australia on draft National Cancer Plan; NACCHO on draft Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cancer Plan; Cancer Institute NSW on NSW Skin Cancer Prevention Strategy 2023-2030.
- RANZCR – Ethical principles for artificial intelligence review. ●

Submissions 2021-22
 Proportion Federal Government, State and Territory Government and Non-Government

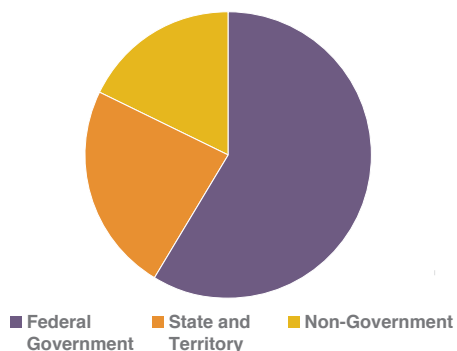


Figure 1. Proportions of submissions 2021-22

Number of government submissions 2014-2022 (YTD)

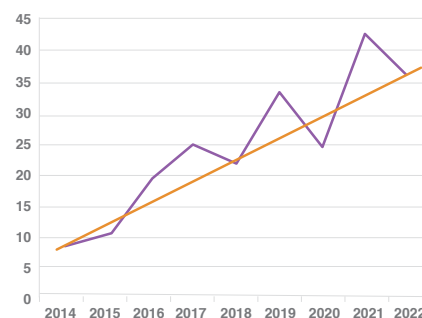


Figure 2. Number of submissions

Northern Territory FATES Project: Evaluation of a rotational supervisory model for dermatology care

College's Flexible Approach to Training in Expanded Settings (FATES) project in Top End Northern Territory (NT) is continuing to make great progress. So far, eight visits have been completed to Darwin and Top End NT, with positive outcomes reported by both the visiting consultant dermatologists and trainee.

CATHY BAYNIE, MANAGER, ADVOCACY
AND HEALTH WORKFORCE

College has engaged the Menzies School of Health Research in the NT to help evaluate the success of the project. Recently, Annie Bygrave, ACD Policy Manager and Dr Sophie Pascoe, Senior Researcher at Menzies School of Health Research had an article published in the National Rural Health Alliance's issue 82 of *Partyline*. The article titled, *A rotational supervisory model for dermatology care* details the positive outcomes of increased consultant capacity created through this project and led by FACD Dr Dev Tilakaratne to enrich the trainee experience and to improve skin health outcomes for patients in Darwin and Top End.

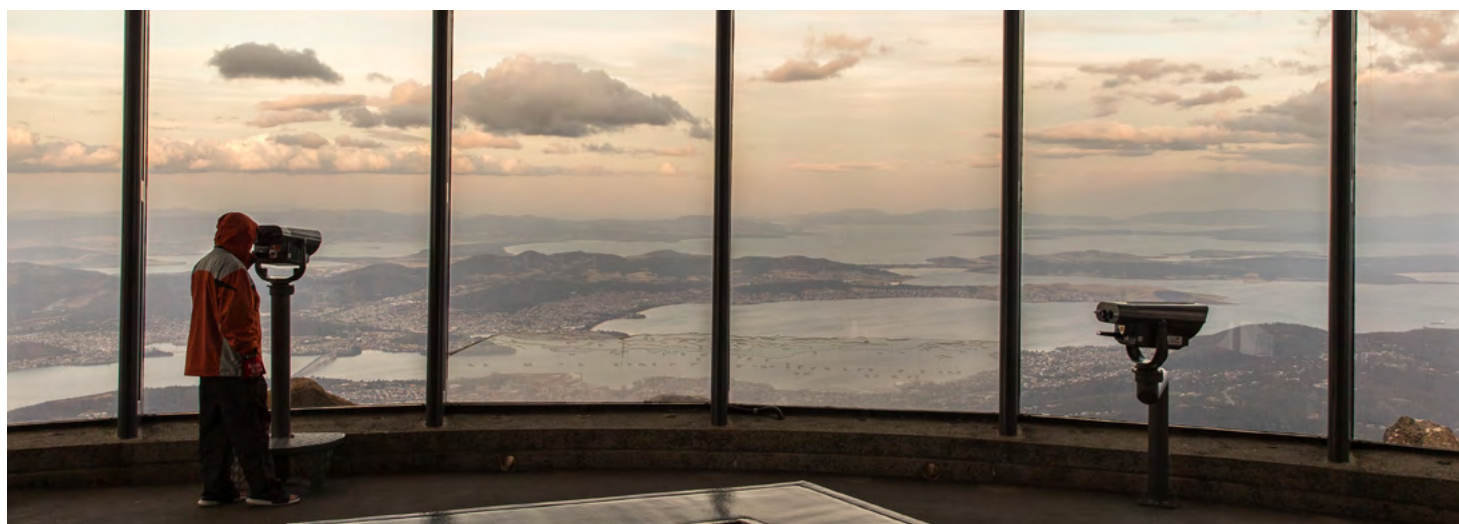
The article was a wonderful opportunity to highlight College's commitment to addressing regional, rural, and remote workforce challenges to improve access to care. The full article is available [here](#). ●



Tasmanian FATES Pilot: Opening up opportunities for training and future workforce sustainability in Tasmania

College is pleased to announce that we have received Federal Government funding for a pilot to support the training of specialist dermatologists in Tasmania. The pilot aims to address workforce shortages by increasing opportunities for local doctors to work and train in their home state.

CAROLINE ZOERS, DIRECTOR, POLICY, ADVOCACY AND ENGAGEMENT



The project will focus on improving pathways for dermatology trainees wishing to train in Tasmania whilst simultaneously increasing access to specialist care for local communities by building the supervisory capacity needed to re-establish training, which ceased in 2015, at Royal Hobart Hospital.

The funding was awarded under the Federal Government's Flexible Approach to Training in Expanded Settings (FATES) program and involves innovative approaches to training in rural and remote areas.

The 2-year project will fund up to 0.4 FTE consultant capacity at Royal Hobart Hospital complementing the current 0.1 FTE service. This enables two Hobart based dermatologists, Dr Narelle Bleasel and Dr Jonathon Ng to take up public appointments at RHH, as well as two newly graduated dermatologists of Tasmanian origin to transition to rural practice in their home state with public appointments at RHH.

They will join Dr Andrew Jevtic, currently the only dermatologist delivering public services at RHH, to build a robust dermatology department to deliver sustainable

dermatology services to the Tasmanian communities now and into the future. This additional consultant FTE opens up supervisory capacity to reinstate training at RHH.

In establishing a high quality, sustainable service delivery and training hub for the region, this project will increase the dermatology presence in Tasmania and provide the local workforce with valuable exposure to dermatologists and the dermatology career pathway, as well as the opportunity for Tasmanians pursuing, or keen to pursue careers as specialist dermatologists to train and practice in their home state.

"This project will enable me to transition to practice in Tasmania which is my home state and provide a much-needed service to the community of Tasmania. Further, it will provide other young doctors greater exposure to dermatology and I hope will inspire more local trainees to apply for the training program, and ultimately practice in their home state," says Dr Anthea Mulcahy, one of the recently graduated dermatologists who will be transitioning to RHH through the program.

As well as providing trainees rotating to Tasmania with exposure to varied expertise and mentorship from dermatologists, the project also uses a multidisciplinary training approach involving adjacent specialties, private practice experience, as well as continued networking and education from our Victorian Faculty, all aimed at creating a high quality, positive experience. The project aims to provide trainees and newly graduated dermatologists with the opportunity to develop collegial relationships with locally based Tasmanian specialists to assist in their training and encourage their future practice in Tasmania.

As noted by College Immediate Past President, Dr Clare Tait in our recent [media release](#), encouraging a 'home-grown' workforce is a key goal of this project. "By offering local doctors the chance to train locally as well as a pathway for those who wish to transition back to their home state, this project will provide the community with a more sustainable workforce and help address workforce issues such as shortage and maldistribution."

The project demonstrates College's strong and growing track record of bringing together Federal and state governments, as well as public and private practice to provide tailored solutions to regional and rural training to address workforce issues and meet the unique needs of local communities. The Tasmanian project complements College's two existing FATES funded projects in Townsville and Darwin, each of which involve

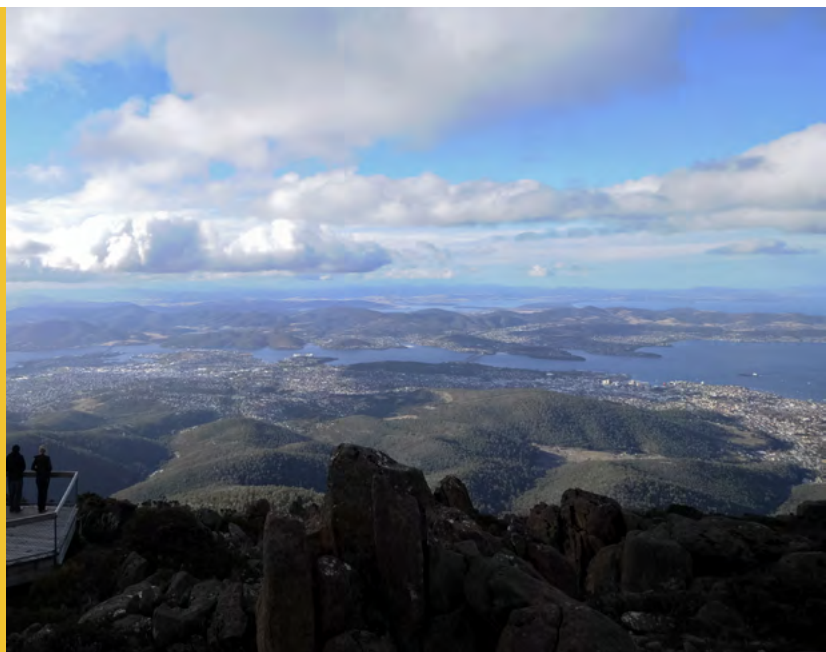
close collaboration with local stakeholders, carefully tailored to the needs of the communities they service.

Addressing the shortage of dermatologists in rural, regional and remote areas is a core focus of College's advocacy agenda. Our constructive and collaborative relationship with the Federal Department of Health and Ageing on implementation of the National Medical Workforce Strategy and through the FATES program has been invaluable in enabling College to address a key enabler to workforce growth - supervisory capacity - and to pilot methods to build regional workforce sustainability longer term.

Key to the design of the Tasmanian project has been relationship building and close collaboration with the Tasmanian Department of Health over the past two years and with Royal Hobart Hospital (RHH), and other local stakeholders to identify workable solutions that address both short-term needs and crucially, lay strong foundations to build a sustainable homegrown workforce longer term. Our thanks also go to our Tasmanian based Fellows, past Victorian Faculty Chair Dr Jill Cargnello and current Chair Dr Aaron Robinson and College's Manager Advocacy and Health Workforce, Cathy Baynie for their ongoing commitment to this project.

We look forward to continuing to work in partnership to deliver this exciting project, which we hope will make a real difference in addressing workforce challenges and access to care for the Tasmanian communities. ●

The project demonstrates College's strong and growing track record of providing tailored solutions to regional and rural training to address workforce issues and meet community needs.





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Abbreviation: TB, tuberculosis. **References:** 1. Otezla[®] (apremilast) Product Information. 2. The Australasian College of Dermatologists Consensus Statement: Treatment goals for psoriasis. March 2017.

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AMGEN

Education update – Progressing multiple facets of training



From 1st Year and 3rd Year workshops to Trainee Selection and reviewing new training positions in rural settings.

With the training program well underway for 2023, College saw the commencement of a higher than usual number of first years due to the UK and Singapore positions restarting in February 2023, as well as funding for additional training positions approved at a number of sites across the country.

JENNIFER CHOWDHURY, DIRECTOR, TRAINING PROGRAM

The year commenced with College hosting the newly combined Evidence Based Medicine (EBM) workshop via the University of Melbourne and the procedural day of the 1st Year workshop. The EBM workshop took place over two days and was implemented to develop trainee evaluation skills, evidence-based practice and encourage future interest in contributing to scientific knowledge. The 3rd Year workshop was also held in March and returned to a face-to-face model similar to pre-COVID-19 years. Both workshops were sponsored by Janssen Pharmaceuticals and afforded trainees the opportunity to

come together for networking and well-earned socialising.

The Trainee Selection application round for placements in 2024 opened in February with higher-than-expected applications received. CV assessment will take place online over two weekends in May with face-to-face interviews to take place in August.

Work continues to progress with site accreditation, assessment of International Medical Graduates (IMG) and Specialist Training Program (STP) funding. Additional STP funding has been awarded to College for new training positions in rural settings, and the STP Taskforce has been tasked with

reviewing all existing STP positions with a view to funding new positions from College's reserve list to ensure that workforce and rural objectives of the STP funding program are being met. Victoria is due for reaccreditation this year and site visits will take place over a series of days later in the year. Extensive work has also commenced in preparation for the Fellowship Exams in June, July and August.

College continues to be appreciative of all members who give up their time to provide support for Training Program activities and committees. Thank you as always for your ongoing work and commitment. ●



Mental Health First Aid online

According to the Australian Productivity Commission – Inquiry Report Mental Health 2020, Mental illness is now said to (statistically) affect every Australian – either directly or indirectly.

CATERINA DE MENEGHI, NATIONAL MANAGER – WELLBEING AND ENGAGEMENT AND ACCREDITED MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID INSTRUCTOR

This means that we all know someone experiencing mental health issues in one way or another, and it is our responsibility as part of our community to increase our mental health literacy and eliminate the stigma Mental health holds in our society and in the medical community.

At College we are proud to deliver Mental Health First Aid training to Fellows and trainees, to ensure that those who want to increase their knowledge and experience in the area of mental health have the opportunity to undertake this training at College. College staff members Caterina De Meneghi and Ashleigh Thomas are both trained and accredited in delivering Mental Health First Aid training and will be running the blended online version of the Mental Health First Aid course on 24 June 2023.

The online version of the course consists of Components 1 and 2. The first is a self-paced eLearning component which will take 5-7 hours to complete. This is then followed by an instructor-led online component, delivered over 2 sessions of 2.5 hours each. This will be delivered on 24 June 2023.

By delivering the online blended version of the training, we hope to reach those who have been keen to complete the course but have been unable to travel to Sydney or Melbourne to attend the face-to-face courses we have delivered.

Expressions of interest are open, so please email [Caterina De Meneghi](#) if you would like to enrol in the course. If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or [Ashleigh Thomas](#).

Once you have confirmed your interest and attendance, you will be sent the relevant information accompanied by Component 1. ●



Dermatology Australasia update



Dermatology Australasia is pleased to report a successful first trimester for 2023 with enrolments steadily increasing from Trimester 1 last year.

MAGDA DICKERSON, DIRECTOR EXTERNAL EDUCATION

We have continued to promote our brand and our courses via social media as well as exhibiting at the Australasian Melanoma Conference in Brisbane and running two workshops. We were also successful in securing funding from Wellbeing South Australia to offer a free course for GPs practicing in South Australia. Trimester 2 began on 15 May 2023 and is shaping up to be another exciting trimester.

AUSTRALASIAN MELANOMA CONFERENCE

Dermatology Australasia exhibited at the Australasian Melanoma Conference in Brisbane, where we met with many GPs, registered nurses, and practice owners. The conference gave us the opportunity to promote our brand and our courses, as well as engage with the target audience and speak about our newly updated Certificate in Melanography Essentials.

140 GPs in South Australia have the opportunity to participate in the Certificate of Practical Dermoscopy at no cost due to funding from Wellbeing South Australia.



WORKSHOPS

The first Practical Dermoscopy workshop of the year was conducted in Melbourne on 25 March and facilitated by Fellow Dr Adam Sheridan. The workshop was well received by the 14 students, with feedback stating Dr Sheridan was a fantastic presenter who is passionate and truly interested in teaching the students.

The two-day Melanography Essentials workshop was conducted in Melbourne and led by course facilitator Maria Buckingham. The workshop is part of the Certificate in Melanography Essentials course, which aims to provide registered nurses and other health professionals with the relevant skills in skin assessment and imaging which are required for competent and safe Melanography practice. The course was updated at the beginning of 2023, so it

was great to see the new course guidelines being taught at this workshop. Feedback received by the 12 participants was positive with the educators complimented on their knowledge and experience in the workplace, and ability to make all students feel comfortable and welcome.

With funding from Wellbeing South Australia, Dermatology Australasia is offering 140 GPs in South Australia the opportunity to participate in the Certificate of Practical Dermoscopy at no cost. The course, consisting of both online study and a face-to-face workshop, is available from 11 May to 6 August 2023, with the workshop being held in Adelaide on 8 July and 12 August 2023.

We are delighted to be able to offer this course to so many GPs practicing in South Australia, to upskill in practical dermoscopy and learn how it can be used to manage patients with skin cancer. ●

Join our Teaching Team

To express your interest in teaching with us, scan the QR Code, or contact [Uta Meyer](#).



From the Faculties

NSW Faculty

After a long hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the NSW Faculty saw an excellent turnout for the first annual clinical meeting hosted by the Department of Dermatology of John Hunter Hospital / Royal Newcastle Centre. Trainees and Fellows alike were spoilt with a breadth and depth of complex and rare dermatology cases, and all were grateful to be meeting once again face-to-face. Special thanks to the efforts of Dr Paul Chee (Head of Department), and Dr Alicia Thornton and Dr Russel Thompson who made a tremendous effort to organise this exceptional meeting. All major tertiary hospitals are planning a resumption of their annual hospital meetings in 2023, which

will provide important educational opportunities for trainees, and will provide Fellows with opportunities for networking, case discussion, collaboration and CPD points.

Following, the NSW Faculty had their first face-to-face annual AGM since the pandemic. A number of new faces were welcomed to the Faculty following their successful nomination. Dr Artie Tatian has taken on the role of NSW Honorary Secretary, A/Prof Linda Martin the academic representative, Dr Esther Hong and Dr Gilberto Moreno have joined as Directors of Training (DOT), and Dr Geetha Sivapirabu is our Chair-Elect. We are grateful for the incredible efforts made by Dr Andrea Tomizawa and Dr Catherine McKay who have

moved on as DOTs, and cannot express enough appreciation for our outgoing Chair Dr Li-Chuen Wong who has been integral to the success of the NSW Faculty.

The NSW Rural Taskforce, chaired by Dr Philip Artemi, has made great strides toward improving the provision of healthcare to rural and remote communities.

Overall, in 2023 we hope to enjoy a full social and academic calendar and look forward to our annual mentor-mentee party mid-year, and meeting with our interstate colleagues at the 55th Annual Scientific Meeting.

Dr Rebecca Saunderson
Chair, NSW Faculty

VIC Faculty

I would like to thank Dr Jill Cargnello for her contributions as Victorian Faculty Chair over the past two years, along with the excellent collaborative work of all our committee members and Faculty. I am thrilled to announce that as a result of this work we are working through the final details of reinstating a registrar position based in Hobart, with a view to this position starting in late 2023.

I would also like to thank the Skin Health Institute (SHI) for continuing to provide education programs for dermatologists, dermatology nurses, general practitioners, and dermatology registrars. The Skin School program for dermatology

registrars in particular covers some areas of the curriculum and aims to provide an additional resource to trainees. Accordingly, we welcome all dermatology registrars nationally to join and access this program if they wish, and would also like to invite all Australian Fellows to participate in the SHI education events, which count towards the required CPD hours for educational activities.

The Victorian Faculty has recently created a new International Medical Graduate (IMG) Engagement subcommittee chaired by A/Prof Rosemary Nixon, to support our IMG colleagues through the complex process of obtaining

Australian dermatology experience and FACD accreditation, and also enrolling them in local dermatology education. We would like to invite any interested IMGs to contact us for further details.

I look forward to working with the Victorian Faculty and our interstate colleagues to continue to build and support our speciality, and continue to work with our registrars, their clinical supervisors and Directors of Training to provide a rich and diverse training experience on their way to Fellowship.

Dr Aaron Robinson
Chair, VIC Faculty

QLD Faculty

The Queensland Faculty enjoyed our recent hybrid clinical meeting at The Princess Alexandra Hospital with over 60 Fellows, registrars and junior doctors attending in person, and 22 online. We presented patient cases via verbal summaries and clinical photographs which seems to be working well and avoids unnecessary infectious risks to patients. We predict that this might be the model we continue into the future despite the World Health Organisation declaring 'an end to COVID-19 as a public health emergency.' While this was said 'with great hope' we all know COVID-19's impact is ongoing.

Brisbane was host to the

Australasian Melanoma Conference on 24-25 March, successfully organised by Australian Skin and Skin Cancer Research Centre lead by Prof H Peter Soyer. This was a fantastic, collaborative conference with dermatologists, GPs, surgeons, oncologists and pathologists discussing all the hot topics in Melanoma in a multidisciplinary manner. There were also interesting lectures from patients and patient advocacy groups.

Our Faculty committee is again embarking on selection with CV marking underway and interviews to be held in August. The Department of Health is offering

College an IRTP funded position, which requires two thirds of their four years of training to occur in a rural/regional area. This is one of a growing number of government initiatives to target and support a sustainable workforce for rural and regional patients. College has been providing excellent support to our Faculty in our applications for these funding initiatives.

QLD Faculty is overjoyed to welcome our newest Fellows to the workforce, see photograph from our recent Faculty dinner where we congratulated them.

A/Prof Erin McMeniman
Chair, QLD Faculty



From left to right: Dr Melissa Manahan (QLD secretary), Prof H Peter Soyer (DOT), Dr Samatha Conias (DOT), A/Prof Erin McMeniman (Chair), Graduates: Dr Jazlyn Read, Dr Genevieve Peak, Dr Stephanie Rea, Dr Lena Von Shuckmann, Dr Jenna Sullivan, Dr Carlotte Mann and Dr MyCo Tran. Absent Graduates Dr Kendall Sharpe, and Dr Jean Tan.

WA Faculty

The Western Australia Faculty has had a big start to the year with our new team of 8.5 trainees starting, and our new cohorting of trainees between Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital and Perth Children's Hospital, and Fiona Stanley and Royal Perth Hospital allowing for more continuity and less commute time between hospitals. The new trainees and service registrars have had a steep learning curve as most are in their first year as a dermatology registrar, but they are all doing a great job. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr Genevieve Sadler, our Director

of Training for all her hard work and many hours spent poring over rosters. Our local heads of department (Dr Stephanie Weston, Dr Jamie Von Nida, Dr Yee Tai and Dr Alan Donnelly) have also spent many hours helping to put together our new team. I am very grateful for their support.

Dr Gary Moloney has retired as Treasurer and we would like to welcome into the role Dr Patricia Le. Dr Moloney has been responsible for some excellent Christmas parties, and we are looking forward to the 2023 get together (no pressure Patricia!).

We continue to have a hybrid of Saturday morning and Wednesday night clinical meetings and I would like to thank our Secretary, Dr Su-Lin Chan for her organisation and patience.

A number of our registrars are on maternity leave, and Dr Anita Smith welcomed a little boy in March. Congratulations Anita!

We look forward to the rest of the year and the return of our registrars currently on Maternity leave in 2024.

Dr Rachael Foster
Chair, WA Faculty

SA Faculty

The SA Faculty Annual General Meeting was held on 22 February where Faculty Chair Dr Jeffrey Wayte stepped down after fulfilling his term in the role. Thank you to Dr Wayte for his contributions to the SA Faculty as Chair over the past 2 years. Dr Yu Chuan Lee takes on the role of Secretary and Dr Chris Tyson continues as Treasurer.

Dr Abby Wallet has taken the role of Head of Unit of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. Prof Gillian Marshman and Dr Catherine Reid confirmed they will be retiring from their private practice this year and Dr Mathew Cho will be organising the much anticipated annual Faculty dinner.

Dr Sally Ball has stepped down after working on the National

Selection Committee for 6 years. The SA Faculty thanked Dr Ball for her tireless dedication and contribution. Dr Fiona Menz now takes on this role.

The SA Faculty continues to provide support for STP positions in Northern Territory under leadership of Dr Dev Tilakaratne. Thank you to Dr Tilakaratne for his work in this important space.

Finally, welcome to our first year dermatology registrars, Dr Charlotte Velik and Dr Shihab Siddiq and congratulations to Dr Joyce Ma who has recently delivered a baby boy, Harvey.

Dr Sachin Vaidya
Chair, SA Faculty



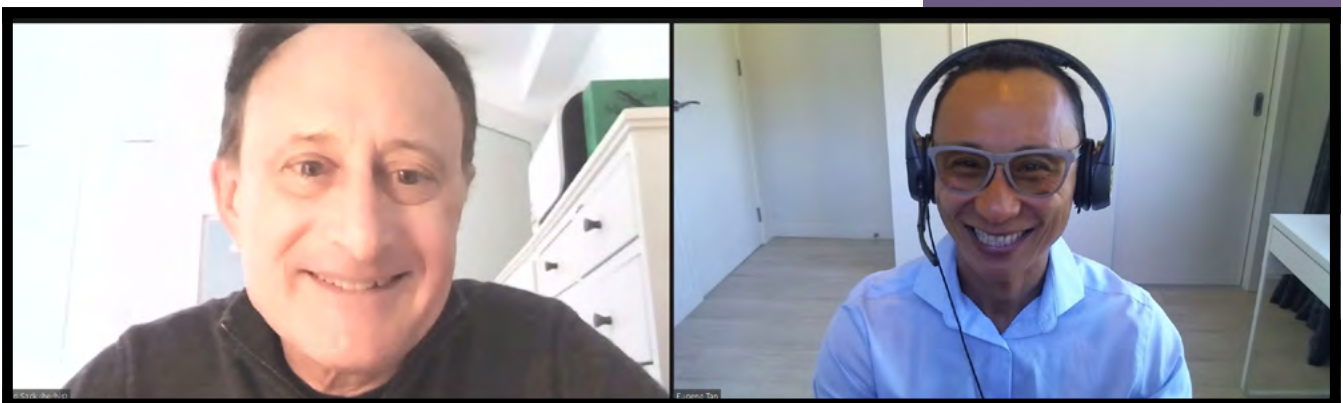
Baby Harvey

Improving environmental sustainability in our medical practice

Recently I attended a webinar hosted by the American Medical Association on *Improving Environment Sustainability in Your Medical Practice*. Based on the premise that every organisation, no matter what the size, has an impact on the environment and that taking steps to improve environmental sustainability can lead to better health outcomes and bring major savings to the health care organisation, the webinar covered ways in which to improve environmental sustainability in our practices. For those wishing to view the webinar it is available on demand [here](#).

DR EUGENE TAN

Building healthier practices and communities by decreasing environmental impact and increasing environmental sustainability.



Following the webinar I was able to interview Dr. Todd Sack founder of My Green Doctor who was featured in the webinar for further insights. My Green Doctor is a not-for-profit service owned by the Florida Medical Association. It currently

has 28 participating organisations including the American Academy of Dermatology. Participation is free and members get access to a complete simple-to-follow program that will save them money and help the environment. All articles on My Green Doctor are evidence-based.

Zoom call with Dr Todd Sack (left) and Dr Eugene Tan (right)

1. What has been your path on this project? Why did you, personally, decide to 'go green' and start My Green Doctor?

My path to going "green" started 20 years ago out of a concern for the environment, our resources and most of all, care for our patients. I am a member of the Florida Medical Association and I started My Green Doctor 12 years ago to provide real-life practical tips for all doctors. I also write a blog once every two months for the American Academy of Dermatology which is circulated as part of their newsletter.

2. How has going green impacted your practice?

Every business can save money right away by lowering their use of resources. This is particularly important in this competitive environment. As an example; Escambia County Health Department embraced sustainability and managed to save USD\$14,000 annually on their electricity bills. They subsequently invested that money into solar panels, and will now see even more savings.

Beyond the tangible impact on economics, I have found that going green is a real booster of staff morale. Staff are thrilled to be part of a bigger process where the practice is mindful of its impact globally. Patients gain trust in their doctor and they know that their doctor can help them make healthy choices

in the clinic and also at home. (See patient [brochure](#))

3. How much do your colleagues/fellow doctors think about the environmental aspects of their business?

Most of my colleagues are so busy in their practices that it is a challenge to add one more item to the list. This is where it's important to start small. Commit 5 minutes to discuss sustainability in your monthly business meeting. The resources are readily available on the website and it's free. We have easy to follow workbooks, patient brochures, and simple steps you can action right away either at home or in your clinic.

4. Do you think the medical industry has been making strides in sustainability or is there a lack of awareness/more work to be done?

COVID-19 has had a negative impact on sustainability. Medical waste has increased exponentially and sadly these wasteful standards are now the norm. Some of my colleagues use single-use gloves even when engaging in a verbal consultation. It is important to review the evidence for each of our actions and set standards for them. Medical supply and pharmaceutical companies need to disclose to us the carbon footprint of their products so that we can make informed, environmentally-sound purchasing decisions.

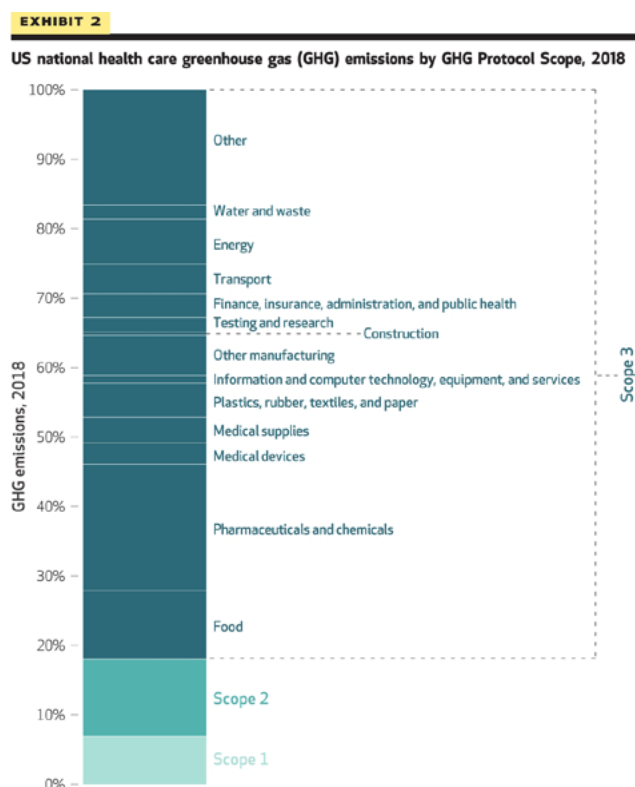


Escambia County Health Department's environmentally friendly solar panels

It is important to review the evidence for each of our actions and set standards for them.

5. What proportion of a practice's carbon footprint is directly related to the purchases of energy?

Roughly 12%. This is Scope 2 of the E.P.A.'s classification of greenhouse gas emission. Scope 1 refers to direct emissions from health care facilities, Scope 2 refers to emissions from direct purchases of energy and Scope 3 is all other supply-chain emissions:



Scope 3 is huge and contributes about 82% of all GHG. This means that what we do at an individual or small practice level has a big impact.

6. Environmental sustainability seems to be a useful part of the medical curriculum. Are you aware of medical schools or specialist colleges who have incorporated this topic in America?

Yes. Dr Mary Williams is a Professor of Dermatology at University of California San Francisco and other dermatologists are working with the American Academy of Dermatology on this very matter. She would love to talk to your team or College to cross-pollinate ideas. ●

MJA Perspectives – The impact of climate change on skin health

A perspectives piece on *The Impact of climate change on skin health* has been published by the Medical Journal of Australia. Authored by ACD Fellows and Environmental Sustainability Group members, Dr Austen Anderson, Dr Fiona Bruce, Prof H Peter Soyer, Dr Crystal Williams and Dr Rebecca Saunderson, the article discusses the impact of climate change on skin health, the importance of mitigation and adaptation strategies and the role that dermatologists, like all specialty groups, can play in making changes to reduce carbon emissions and waste. The article is available [here](#). ●

ASM55 – Vivid in every sense

The 55th Annual Scientific Meeting took place from 27-29 May 2023 at the International Convention Centre, Sydney. After a return to face-to-face conferencing in 2023, we saw a strong turnout in Sydney with over 1400 attendees, including industry supporters. Surrounded by the amazing light show that is Vivid Sydney across the weekend, the ASM had a very exciting and “enlightening” atmosphere. College took the opportunity in Sydney to run a number of new forums and networking sessions, recognising different segments within our membership and allied support staff.

SARAH STEDMAN, DIRECTOR, MEMBERSHIP & PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

First and foremost, our thanks to co-convenors Dr Michelle McRae and Dr Li-Chuen Wong from the NSW Faculty for their consultative support in bringing together a wide range of social and onsite activities to ensure ASM55 was truly unique. We would also like to acknowledge the enormous effort and ongoing dedication of Prof Gayle Fischer and Prof H Peter Soyer with the support of the broader Meeting and Events Oversight Group for bringing together such a dynamic and diverse scientific program. With experts from across the College Fellowship as well as guests from other specialities including Ophthalmology and Pathology, the program highlighted the evolving nature of dermatological treatment and the importance of collaborating closely with other medical professionals to deliver the best patient care and outcomes possible.





Program highlights

We saw 22 exciting sessions take place this year across Friday, Saturday and Sunday, as well as a plenary each day. Our opening session on Saturday morning started with a Welcome to Country from cultural educator and advisor for Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council in Sydney, Brendan Kerin to formally start proceedings. College President Dr Clare Tait welcomed all attendees before the Ophthalmology and Dermatology session commenced. The program continued across the three days with sessions on transgender medicine, AI in dermatology, acne, atopic dermatitis, ethics and professionalism, biologics/psoriasis and much more.



Practice Managers Forum

We were delighted to have practice managers join us on Saturday morning for the inaugural Practice Managers Forum for networking and professional development. College recognises the key role of practice managers as operational leaders, decision makers and drivers of change within dermatological practices. It is time for us to build a community to share ideas and experiences. We thank all attendees for their commitment and feedback as we look to continue developing support and a community of practice for practice managers in the dermatology space.

Welcome drinks and the inaugural Younger Fellows Mixer

The pre-conference day of workshops and meetings on Friday is becoming busier each year. To acknowledge the amount of activity and the number of people onsite, we hosted the welcome drinks on Friday evening. Coupled with the start of Vivid Sydney, attendees enjoyed the opportunity to catch up with colleagues, orientate themselves in the ICC space and start the meeting on a relaxed social note. Following this, we hosted your newest Fellows at a special reception to encourage networking and had our official event photographer onsite to take profile shots.



Posters, wine and cheese

Another new social event this year was a poster viewing session at the end of the Saturday program. Attendees gathered in the exhibition to view posters and meet authors while tasting some of the best food and wine sourced from New South Wales. A delicious way to end the day onsite in readiness for the College Party. The party was hosted at Dockside in the Darling Harbour precinct. Attendees took in the best of Vivid, enjoyed cocktails, canapes, a caricaturist, photobooth and a DJ.

Recognising National Reconciliation Action Week

College collaborated with ICC Sydney and the opportunities they provide through their Legacy Program, working with their established partners to incorporate and recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and significance throughout the ASM including the attendance of the Koomurri Group for a special artistic performance at the opening break in the exhibition hall on Saturday, as well as an "art on canvas" experience with an artist in residence for the day, also in the exhibition hall. We also had the pleasure of showcasing the First Nations art on display through the conferencing space and encouraged attendees to take a self-guided tour of the collection.

We were delighted to have our lanyard sponsor Sun Pharma who supported us in sourcing the lanyards from a First Nations supplier who provided us with lanyards with a design from an original artwork by proud Olkolo/Kutjala woman Aleerah Barker called Education 2023. "My artwork piece represents an individual's journey through their education. The process of learning and the benefit of new experiences are vitally important in evolving us into our own unique and amazing individual. Everybody's journey is different and that is what makes education so special" artist Aleerah said about her art.





ACD
ASM

55

Sustainability Sunday

College was determined to make sure this year and future iterations of our ASM continue facilitating environmentally sustainable practices. From the choice of our venue partners to the food we provide and all other elements that go into providing this important professional development activity, we want to take a collective approach by encouraging and enabling all stakeholders involved in the event an opportunity to assist us.

We welcomed Bristol Myers Squibb on board this year as our inaugural ACD ASM Sustainability Partner – working together to recognise and promote sustainability in the dermatology space.

The ASM Number Crunch...

22 Sessions
3 Plenary Session
33 Newly Conferred Fellows
163 Posters
1400+ registrants
61 Exhibitors including Patient Support Groups



Celebrating College Award Winners and our Newest Fellows

It is always an exciting part of the ASM to come together to acknowledge great achievements and welcome our newest Fellows at the Conferring and Awards Ceremony. We were honoured to have Professor Ian Hickie as part of this year's ceremony to give the John Reid oration. Professor Hickie is currently the Co-Director, Health and Policy at The University of Sydney's Brain and Mind Centre.





ACD CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Continuing Professional Development at the ASM

The recent ASM provided an opportunity for a unique Continuing Professional Development (CPD) session to promote an engaging and collaborative learning environment. The session followed an interview style discussion and gave Fellows the opportunity to ask questions about the program.

DR JOHN SULLIVAN AND CLAIRE KENNEDY, POST-FELLOWSHIP DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Hosted by Dr John Sullivan and Dr Sarah Hannam, this session covered the significance of audits and their role in healthcare improvement. Along with Dr Jeremy Banky, who outlined how audits can serve as the gold standard for evaluating and enhancing healthcare practices as demonstrated in the Mohs QAP, Dr Sullivan and Dr Hannam demonstrated how to make CPD work for you. The panel of Fellows included recent graduates with the challenges of a young family, those in their median specialist years, along with others nearing and considering transitioning to retirement. Panellists also included those solely in private practice, others in teaching institutions, and members who provide remote and regional services. Brief presentations and associated discussion shed light on the various aspects of CPD and offered the opportunity for robust discussion.

The discussion shifted to the challenges that healthcare professionals face when juggling CPD requirements and family responsibilities. Both Dr Hannam and Dr Mullan acknowledged the difficulties and emphasised the importance of understanding the CPD rules imposed by AHPRA. Dr Hannam and Dr Mullan advocated for open communication and the provision of resources to support practitioners in fulfilling their CPD requirements while accommodating personal circumstances, such as offering online courses, webinars, and alternative CPD activities.

The panel welcomed Dr Ian McCrossin and Dr Rosemary Nixon, who shared their experiences working in rural and remote areas. Dr McCrossin highlighted the unique CPD challenges faced in these locations, such as limited access to specialised training and professional networking

opportunities. Emphasising the role of technology in bridging these gaps, Dr McCrossin mentioned the use of teleconferencing, webinars, and online resources to stay connected with the medical community, access educational programs, and engage in virtual peer discussions. Additionally, both Dr McCrossin and Dr Nixon expressed their commitment to mentoring younger healthcare professionals, contributing to their CPD journey, and sharing expertise.

The panel delved into the wide range of activities that qualify for CPD. Dr Sullivan shared his involvement in various groups and how he formalises them to meet the CPD requirements. Dr Sullivan emphasised that participation in these dynamic communities facilitates knowledge exchange, idea generation, and staying updated on the latest advancements in the dermatology field. By being a part of these groups, Dr Sullivan has managed to enhance the CPD journey while fostering professional relationships that contribute to growth as a healthcare practitioner.

The informative discussion held during the CPD session at the ASM shed light on the importance of clinical audits, CPD rules, and the challenges faced by medical professionals. The feedback provided by the audience was centred around the AHPRA requirements for the new program which College has endeavoured to make as user friendly as possible for our members, but recognises there is still room for improvement. By embracing CPD opportunities and leveraging technology, healthcare professionals can stay at the forefront of medical advancements, delivering high quality care to their patients.

For any questions about your CPD journey, contact the CPD team at cpd@dermcoll.edu.au ●



Australian
Dermatology
Nurses'
Association

Promoting and Developing Excellence in
Dermatology Nursing

ADNA Conference Wrap-up for 2023

It is June. Winter has begun and we look back on a great experience. The adjunct conferences for this year were fantastic. Our theme for the conference was: **diversify, challenge, evolve.**

VIVIENNE SPEIRS, ADNA PRESIDENT AND TEAM

The Australian Dermatology Nurses' Association had one of its largest turn-outs with over 220 delegates from around the Country, including the Northern Territory.

So many nurses from different areas of clinical practice attended to network, learn and share experiences and techniques with one another.

Nurse Practitioners, advanced practice nurses and clinical specialists, registered and enrolled nurses from private practice and hospital outpatient and acute care, collaborated.

Three dinners—Amgen and Ego plus Abbvie and the welcome drinks—were well received. Some of us had never met before and realised conferences are so vital for connection.

The Saturday workshops—organised by the ADNA Executive but enabled by the generosity of the Australasian College of Dermatologists—provided nine options (3 sessions of three) for different clinical and learning needs so all were able to enrich their experience and leave with practical knowledge for themselves and patients.

Speakers included Dr Marlene Wijaya (Practical melanography and nurse role), Glenda Savoulain



RN (home-based phototherapy), Lisa from Mayfield Education (sterilisation), Talliesin Ellis (wounds), Dr Randall Long (psychodermatology), Tanya Henshaw (UK biopsy and also xeroderma pigmentosum), Jemma Weidinger NP (Paediatric Eczema), Vivienne Speirs RN (leadership and mentoring).

The Sunday was deliberately planned to highlight inter-specialty collaboration, demonstrating the need for broad patient care and medical / nursing team input to better meet patient needs and improve outcomes. This included guest speakers:

Prof. Gayle Fischer (vulval dermatology), Prof Pablo Fernandez-Penas (melanoma research Westmead), Dr Peter Wong (Rheumatology), Dr Ming Wei (Immunology bullous disease and Rituximab), Dr Jennifer Kim (Pathology), Dr Jillian Wells and Odette Beulens NP (cutaneous lymphoma).

We were very grateful for generous Abbvie sponsorship for this conference and the nurses loved the exhibition hall, fabulous food and large 'samples' by the sponsors. Our chosen charity was the Gunawirra / ACU Young Aboriginal Mothers Project (YAMP) which received 50% of the profits from the speaker gifts (care of Goodwill wines).

We look forward to greater collaboration with the Australasian College of Dermatologists in furthering dermatology nurse education. ●



THEME:
CHALLENGE, DIVERSIFY, EVOLVE



A Better Culture – An important conversation for College

College has been engaged by the Royal Australasian College of Medical Administrators (RACMA) to be part of a project called “A Better Culture”.

SARAH STEDMAN, DIRECTOR, MEMBERSHIP & PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

The project comes as a result of the recent Medical Training Survey that identified unacceptable levels of bullying, discrimination, racism, and harassment within the medical workforce.

The data shows that early career doctors witness and experience these adverse behaviours and identify other doctors as perpetrators. Given the link to patient safety, creating a positive workplace culture is a high priority.

The aim of this project is to design and develop a multi-faceted engagement strategy to address the long-standing issues in the culture of medicine in collaboration with all key stakeholders including specialist medical colleges, the Australian Medical Council (AMC), the Medical Board of Australia (MBA), the Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association (AIDA) and the Council of Presidents of

Medical Colleges (CPMC).

The intended outcome for the project is to confirm a tangible and achievable approach that will be adopted by all key stakeholders to enact genuine and sustained behavioural change across the whole of specialist medical training.

In response to this, College will be holding an interactive online session at 7:30PM, Thursday 27 July 2023.

The session, chaired by Dr Jillann Farmer, National Lead for the A Better Culture Project, will present an overview of the approach being taken, with an opportunity for participants to engage with this ambitious program through flash consultation on readiness, alignment and overall attitudes towards the project. There will be College representatives engaging in an open forum to encourage thoughts and conversation from attendees.

The aim of this project is to design and develop a multi-faceted engagement strategy to address the long-standing issues in the culture of medicine.



Dr Jillann Farmer (FRACMA)

Dr Jillann Farmer was the Medical Director of the United Nations (UN), based at the headquarters in New York for 8 years. During tenure at the UN, she was responsible for the health, safety and wellbeing of all UN personnel deployed throughout the world and was also responsible for the standards in healthcare facilities operating under the UN flag. She managed the UN's response to the New York wave of COVID-19 in 2020.

Since leaving the UN, she has worked as a Deputy Director General in Queensland Health and as a front-line clinician in primary care and emergency medicine. Prior to serving in the UN, she was the Medical Director of the Patient Safety Centre in Queensland Health, and the inaugural Director of the Clinician Performance Support Service.

Jillann is currently the National Lead for a project to shift the culture of medical practice to one of respect, inclusion and equity. ●

JOIN US FOR A BETTER CULTURE PRESENTATION AND FORUM

7:30PM (AEST)

Thursday 27 July 2023

Online – details to be provided
shortly.



RECRUITING NOW

Join our team of over 50 of Australia's leading dermatologists

The Skin Hospital's (TSH) commitment to innovation has made us a leading provider of dermatology services. With state-of-the-art facilities, cutting-edge technology, a collaborative work environment, and commitment to professional development make TSH the perfect place for your future career.

- Fellow of the Australasian College of Dermatologists (FACD) or equivalent
- Minimum of 2 years of experience in clinical dermatology
- Unrestricted registration with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA)

Benefits:

- Competitive salary and benefits package
- Flexible working hours
- Registrar training program
- Opportunities for professional development and research
- Opportunity to be involved in clinical trials.
- Collaborative and supportive work environment
- Cutting-edge technology
- Dermatology trained nurses

To organise a confidential conversation with our CEO, Linda Smith, please email us at careers@skinhospital.edu.au.

Scan the
QR code to
find out more



Join our team and help us make a difference in the lives of our patients

skinhospital.edu.au

2023 Scientific Research Fund – Closing soon!

College is pleased to be offering, for the first time, a single grant of \$50,000 for the 2023 Scientific Research Fund (SRF) to support dermatology-related research projects.

Applications are now open and close on 30 June 2023 at 11.59pm AEST. For eligibility, terms and conditions, please visit our [website](#).

If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation to the SRF, please contact Andy Wong, Director Finance and Risk Manager at finance@dermcoll.edu.au. ●



Recipient of the 2022 Eczema Association of Australasia Inc. Grant

College was pleased to administer for a second year the 2022 Eczema Association of Australasia (EAA) Inc. Grant to support Fellows and trainees to undertake research into eczema and atopic dermatitis.

College received a total of three strong applications for the Grant, covering a range of eczema and atopic dermatitis areas. We are pleased to announce that Dr Emma Veysey has been awarded the grant for her project titled, *Lifestyle and habit predictors of adherence to topical therapy for adults with atopic dermatitis*. Congratulations to Dr Veysey and her team.

PROJECT SIGNIFICANCE.

This is a prospective cohort study designed to investigate whether

certain lifestyle factors or habits predict adherence to topical therapies for atopic dermatitis. Patients with mild-to-moderate atopic dermatitis who are suitable for topical treatment only will be recruited.

At their initial appointment, patients will be asked about their sleep, work and exercise routines, and the impact atopic dermatitis has on their quality of life. The severity of their atopic dermatitis will also be assessed.

Standard care with topical therapies will be initiated and at their follow-up appointment,

adherence and clinical improvement will be assessed, using validated questionnaires.

This project aims to improve understanding on who may be better suited for topical therapies alone and who should be accelerated to alternative treatment or require additional support to maintain their topical therapy regime. Our research team includes Ms Diana Zannino, Biostatistician (Methods and Implementation Support for Clinical and Health Research at the University of Melbourne) and Dr Salam Kashmoola. ●

The Australasian Journal of Dermatology – Call for Expressions of Interest for Editor in Chief

The Australasian Journal of Dermatology (AJD) is seeking Expressions of Interest for the positions of Editor in Chief. This is a contracted position within the Australasian College of Dermatologists accounting for 0.1FTE with relevant compensation. The [Position Description](#) details the role responsibilities, requirements and selection criteria.

The current editors are reaching the end of their 3-year term and will vacate their positions by the end of November.

A period of overlap with exiting Editors in Chief would allow a smooth transition and adaptation to the Editorial services of AJD.

Candidates with a passion for science and medical communication and a breadth of interest in education, research and content management would be particularly welcome. Interested applicants should provide their CV and cover letter addressing the selection criteria and highlighting their motivation and experience to the College Executive Assistant to the CEO, [Despina Hasapis](#). The selection process will be completed by the Executive Board of the AJD.

Thank you for your consideration of this position. ●





Update

Educational Program

The Skin Hospital's Educational Webinar Series kicked off earlier this year. We would like to thank Dr Shivam Kapila and Dr Jillian Wells who have started the presentations for 2023. Dr Kapila discussed 'What GPs should be aware of in terms of skin cancer, diagnosis and treatment' and Dr Wells presented on cutaneous lymphoma. Both educational events proved to be extremely popular.

Moving ahead this year, The Skin Hospital's educational webinars are packed with innovative content, covering a wide range of topics. In June, Dr Frances Tefany will present on scarring and non-scarring hair disorders, and in July A/Prof Chris Baker will discuss the changing targets in psoriasis and redefining treatment goals. To see the full list of webinars scheduled for 2023, please visit The Skin Hospital's website: <https://skinhospital.edu.au/events/category/dermatologists/>.



Career Opportunities

The Skin Hospital is a centre of excellence in the clinical management of skin diseases, with an internationally recognised Research and Clinical Trials team who are at the forefront of their field.

Currently, there are positions available at The Skin Hospital's two purpose-built and accredited sites in Sydney; located at Darlinghurst and Westmead. To find out more about joining our talented and respected team, please visit our website for further information: <https://skinhospital.edu.au/careers/>.

Registrars Update

Our new registrars have settled into their rotations well and we would also like to take the opportunity to send the fourth-year trainees our best wishes for their forthcoming Fellowship exams in June, July and August.

Clinical Trials Update

The Research and Clinical Trials Unit is excited to announce two new changes to the team that will help us further our mission of supporting high-quality dermatology clinical research.



Dr Cindy Kok

Dr Cindy Kok has been appointed as the new Head of Clinical Trials and Research, and Dr Raaisa Islam has joined our team as the new Research Fellow. The Research and Clinical Trials Unit will continue to be committed to becoming leaders in dermatology clinical trials and research and making a significant impact in the dermatology research community.

The approval and commercialisation of biologic treatments for atopic dermatitis, such as Dupixent and Rinvoq, has resulted in a new challenge in recruiting participants for studies focused on atopic dermatitis. As these treatments have become readily available, patients suffering from moderate to severe atopic dermatitis are less likely to participate in clinical trials, and dermatologists are less likely to refer patients to them. However, we continue with four clinical trials for atopic dermatitis. We also continue with three trials for hand eczema, alopecia, and psoriasis across our Darlinghurst and Westmead sites.

We are in the final stages of running a trial evaluating efficacy and safety of Deucravacitinib in 12-18 year olds with moderate to severe plaque psoriasis. Another trial on the horizon will investigate the efficacy, safety, and tolerability of ritlecitinib in both adults and adolescents with nonsegmental vitiligo. ●

Research Update

Our new Dermatology Research Fellow, Dr Raaisa Islam, is involved in several research projects, some of which are detailed here. Under the guidance of Dr Monisha Gupta, Dr Islam will continue the work of Dr Brent Doolan for quality improvement research into autologous noncultured epidermal cellular grafting for stable vitiligo. Currently, Dr Islam is part of the team led by Dr Andrea Tomiwaza investigating how the reflectance confocal microscopy can be used pre-operative for surgical mapping prior to Mohs Micrographic Surgery of basal cell carcinoma. Finally, Dr Raaisa Islam is collaborating with Dr Matthew Lin in areas related to treatment of Bowen's disease.

We continue focusing on improving patient care and outcomes, including the Mohs' surgery Registry led by Dr Simon Lee and research projects for improving doctor-patient communication for Mohs patients.





Update

SHI's new Learning Management System

As part of our website redevelopment, we have integrated a new Learning Management System (LMS), designed to enhance dermatology-related professional development while providing flexible access to SHI's education program.

The LMS offers a comprehensive curriculum, covering a wide range of dermatological topics, from common skin conditions to complex diseases. Users can stay up to date with the latest research, treatment guidelines, and clinical insights.

The LMS is designed for flexibility. You can access educational materials and complete modules at your own pace, anywhere, anytime.

To join the LMS, scan the QR code to visit the website and sign up for an account. Once registered, you will gain access to the library including past year's events.

We also welcome any feedback on the LMS. Please email marketing@skinhealthinstitute.org.au.

OUR COURSES

The portal provides Specialists, GPs and Nurses with access to a library of videos from our education sessions in 2021 & 2022. The library regularly updated and new content added after every education event.



REGISTRARS

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Masterclasses

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GENERAL PRACTITIONERS

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Legacy Series: Dr Rod O'Keefe

Dive into the world of dermatopathology with our recent Legacy Series featuring Dr Rod O'Keefe. In this engaging interview, Dr O'Keefe shares his incredible professional journey, providing valuable insights into the fields of both dermatology and dermatopathology.




During this session, Dr O'Keefe delves into his experiences and expertise gained throughout his illustrious career. Hosted by friend and colleague A/Prof Chris Baker, the conversation is an illuminating exploration of the intersection between clinical dermatology and pathology.

Dr O'Keefe's journey is truly inspiring, having started as a dermatologist and gradually transitioning into the specialised field of dermatopathology. His expertise and dedication to both areas have contributed significantly to the advancement of dermatological care.

Whether you missed the live event or simply want to revisit this illuminating discussion, we invite you to watch the recording and gain invaluable knowledge and insights from a true industry leader.


To access the recording, [visit the Skin Health Education Portal](#). If you have not previously registered for the website, you will need to for video access.





UPCOMING EVENTS

INSTITUTE UPDATE HYPERHIDROSIS CLINIC

Dr Kamal Sandhu


 Monday 24 July

 7:30pm (AEST)


 Online

SINGAPORE WORLD CONGRESS REVIEW

A/Prof Aaron Robinson

 Wednesday 26 July

 7:30pm (AEST)

 Online

SCAN TO RSVP

Specialised care for Hidradenitis Suppurativa at our new clinic

SHI recently launched a dedicated Hidradenitis Suppurativa (HS) clinic to provide comprehensive support and management for this challenging condition. The clinic, led by Dr Diana Norris, will be held monthly and patients may be referred to our clinic for specialised care.

Patients will have access to cutting-edge therapies to effectively manage moderate to severe HS and will be able to receive procedures such as deroofing on site.

The clinic takes a holistic approach to HS management, addressing both the physical and emotional aspects of the condition. To refer a patient, you can visit our website or email [Sarah Chivers](#).



Dr Diana Norris

Currently recruiting for clinical trials



We are seeking adults with a clinical diagnosis of atopic dermatitis (AD) to participate in two exciting clinical research trials. These trials aim to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of investigational treatments for moderate to severe AD.

The first trial is *A Comparative Study of Oral Upadacitinib and Subcutaneous Dupilumab* which is targeting adults with moderate to severe AD experiencing symptoms for at least 6 months. Participants will receive either oral Upadacitinib or subcutaneous Dupilumab during the treatment period. This trial aims to assess adverse events and measure the change in disease activity.

The second trial is *Investigational Medication vs. Placebo Injection Study* which is seeking participants with moderate to severe eczema involving at least 10% of body surface

area. Patients who have a history of inadequate response to topical corticosteroids (TCS) may qualify for this trial which aims to evaluate the effectiveness of the investigational medication in managing AD symptoms.

To learn more about these trials, or see if your patients qualify, you can visit the currently recruiting trials page on our website.

To refer patients, contact, [Sarah Chivers](#) via email or phone (03) 9623 9465 or fax (03) 9623 9464 with the patient's name, contact details and any other relevant information. ●



Introduction

Welcome to the latest update on the Queensland Institute of Dermatology (QID). In this edition, we are excited to highlight our successful collaboration with the Brisbane Hospital Dermatology Group (BHDG), our recent staffing updates, and an important upcoming event.

Strengthening Partnerships: Collaborating with BHDG

QID is proud to announce our deepening partnership with the Brisbane Hospital Dermatology Group (BHDG). Together, we are working hand in hand to provide weekly registrar teachings, setting a new standard for comprehensive dermatology education in the region. BHDG's experienced and knowledgeable consultants are crucial in training our future dermatologists. The predominately hybrid format held in our Education Centre in South Brisbane provides a hub for registrars and reliable technology to conduct the meetings.

The collaboration with BHDG is invaluable to the registrar cohort as their speakers bring a wealth of expertise and experience covering exam curriculum, ensuring our registrars are well-prepared to excel in their dermatology careers. This close partnership between QID and BHDG exemplifies our commitment to fostering excellence and innovation in dermatological education.

Staffing Updates

At QID, we believe that a team of dedicated professionals is the cornerstone of our success. We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Ebrahim Abdulla.

CLINIC DAYS: MONDAY, TUESDAY, FRIDAY

Dr Ebrahim Abdulla is a qualified Dermatologist from South Africa who completed his undergraduate training at the University of Natal in 1986. After a stint in general practice Dr Abdulla undertook his post-graduate training in Dermatology at the University of Stellenbosch. He graduated in 1999 and entered specialist private practice, consulting at St Augustine's Hospital and Mount Edgecombe Hospital in Durban.

In 2016 Dr Abdulla came to Australia to complete his advanced training



Dr Ebrahim Abdulla (Photo taken at the Skin Hospital)

in Dermatology with the Australasian College of Dermatologists. In addition to a rural rotation in NSW, Dr Abdulla has trained at The Skin Hospital at Westmead, at Westmead Public Hospital and The Children's Hospital Westmead. He specialises in inflammatory dermatoses affecting children and adults as well as skin cancer.

Furthermore, we are proud to introduce Tara Memery as our practice manager. With her

exceptional organisational skills and commitment to delivering the highest level of patient experiences, Tara ensures the smooth operation of our clinic and the highest level of care for our patients. Additionally, we welcome Clinical Assistant Jessica Zhuang, Marketing and Events Assistant Angus Burton, and our new AIN Shannon Minnell, who contribute their expertise and dedication to their respective roles, further strengthening our team's capabilities.

Upcoming Event: Clinical Meeting

Mark your calendars for the Queensland Institute of Dermatology Clinical Meeting. The meeting will be held on 10 June in the Queensland Skin and Cancer Foundation Education Centre, located at 14 Browning Street, South Brisbane. This gathering offers an excellent opportunity for knowledge exchange, professional networking, and staying up to date with the latest advancements in dermatology.

While we would love to see everyone in person, we understand that not everyone may be able to attend physically. To ensure maximum participation, we are pleased to announce that the event will also be streamed online. This way, regardless of your location, you can join us virtually and actively engage in the enriching discussions that will take place during the meeting. Please RSVP [here](#).

CONCLUSION


As the Queensland Institute of Dermatology continues to expand its horizons, our collaboration with the Brisbane Hospital Dermatology Group stands as a testament to our commitment to excellence in education. With the addition of Dr. Ebrahim Abdullah and our outstanding staff, we are equipped to deliver world-class dermatological care to our patients. ●





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