



ANZSNR PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2021

I hope that all our members and families are well, despite the difficulties of the past few months, with most states and New Zealand impacted by COVID-19 lockdowns and restrictions. It's certainly a challenging time for planning face-to-face events with any modicum of confidence.

The 2022 ASM is planned for Sydney in March. The Organising Committee are continuing to plan for the meeting, this includes development of the scientific program and approaching local faculty members to present. We have used our close affiliations with the British Society for Neuroradiology and our Singapore Colleagues, inviting them to nominate international speakers for our meeting. International speakers will attend virtually, as travel does not look likely at this point without strict quarantining requirements adhered to on return.

We are continuing to monitor the COVID situation, which we are aware may limit our ability to go ahead with a face-to-face meeting. Contingency planning is underway with a postponement being possible if we cannot proceed. We appreciate everyone's patience as we navigate the difficulties of COVID and planning events and will provide a further update on the status of the ASM over the coming months. In the meantime, if you have any questions at all, please contact the secretariat via email.

The ANZSNR Council met, via Zoom, as scheduled, on the 19 August 2021. A summary of the key items discussed is provided below for members.

As always, if you would like to get involved in the work of the ANZSNR or have any questions, please contact the secretariat at secretariat@anzsnr.org.au

STATEMENTS OF PURPOSE

The ANZSNR Statements of Purpose have been ratified by the Council.

EDUCATION

Promote and guide the highest standards of education and research in the fields of diagnostic neuroradiology, interventional neuroradiology and head and neck imaging.

ADVOCACY

Advocate and promote neuroradiology and head and neck imaging and provide support for Society members.

COLLABORATION

Provide a forum for inclusive collaboration nationally and internationally.

Raise awareness of the benefits of diagnostic neuroradiology, interventional neuroradiology and head and neck imaging to colleagues and the community, including patients and health care providers.

They have been developed over a period of several months with an aim to define the priorities of the society and will be used for future strategic planning. Please visit the website to view the published statements -

<https://www.anzsnr.org.au/about>

WFITN – World Federation of Interventional and Therapeutic Neuroradiology

ANZSNR have accepted an invitation to become a Federation Assembly member of the WFITN.



The WFITN was formed in 1990 at a time when neurointervention was not established formally in many countries. Currently and at that time it allowed for individual members to join and has steadily grown with worldwide representation. Through the WFITN and with the cooperation of other societies not only have scientific meetings been held but policy documents have been formulated on training, standards of practice, ethics and other topics.

In line with the organisation of neurointervention that has taken place in many countries since 1990 they now feel it is time to provide a platform for international neurointervention society collaboration and coordination.

The WFITN constitution was recently amended to allow for a Federation Assembly. The Assembly will be comprised of 2 representatives from each society choosing to join the WFITN. Members will meet once a year to continue with policy formulation allowing coordination with other related societies, federations and international health organisations.



RANZCR IR/INR Training Pathway Working Group Update

This work is progressing under the Interventional Radiology Committee of RANZCR. This work is collaborative and is supported by ANZSNR with representation by ANZSNR members.

It is envisaged this will culminate in an application to the AMC for specialty recognition of Interventional Neuroradiology.

An application to the AMC could take up to 12 months, at which time New Zealand's pathway would be considered by working with the New Zealand stakeholders to submit to the NZMC.

RANZCR Consultations

ANZSNR have been invited to provide feedback on the following RANZCR documents.

RANZCR Specialist Interventional Radiology and Interventional Neuroradiology Range of Practice position paper - [Our Consultations | RANZCR](#)

This paper summarises the additional advanced knowledge, behaviours, clinical skills and technical capabilities required for specialist Interventional Radiology and Interventional Neuroradiology practice. It emphasises the clinical roles that these specialist clinicians need to provide patients to ensure high quality patient-centric care.

The ranges of practice for both Interventional Radiology and Interventional Neuroradiology are outlined separately and in a broad manner to accurately describe the similarities and differences between the specialties, and to allow for ongoing relevance as the specialties grow and evolve with technology and clinical capabilities.

The *RANZCR Specialist Interventional Radiology and Interventional Neuroradiology Range of Practice* is not designed to restrict a suitably qualified and experienced individual's practice, inappropriately restrict another practitioner's practice nor assert a right to practice.

Please direct your feedback to interventional@ranzcr.edu.au by 24 September 2021, referencing line numbers where appropriate.

Artificial Intelligence in Medicine Consultation—Position Statement.

[RANZCR Position Statement on the Regulation of Artificial Intelligence in Medicine Consultation](#)

Please direct your feedback to fcr@ranzcr.edu.au by 24 September 2021, referencing line numbers where appropriate.

RANZCR 2021 ASM—ANZSNR Update

The RANZCR ASM will be held as a virtual meeting from 16- 19th September 2021.

ANZSNR Secretary General, Dr Steve Chryssidis will be presenting on the ANZSNR at a dedicated IR/INR session. The session will be on Saturday 18th September, commencing at 11:30am. If you are registered to attend the ASM, we recommend you attend the session.

SAVE THE DATE! 12–15 October 2021

The Stroke Society of Australasia (SSA) would like to invite ANZSNR



Members to the 2021 Stroke Conference to be held virtually between 12-15 October 2021. To find out more and download the preliminary program click here <https://ssastrokeconference.com.au/>

ISMRM 'Quantitative Diffusion MRI in Clinical Practice'

The ISMRM Diffusion Study Group (DSG) has developed a survey for practicing neuroradiologists to gain information about the use of 'Quantitative Diffusion MRI in Clinical Practice'.

ISMRM would like to invite ANZSNR members to complete the finalised survey by 25th September 2021 at <https://protect-au.mimecast.com/s/jcRqC0YZJpCGzr45wiwOOzV?domain=form.jotform.com>

Please do not use this link if you had already received an invitation to participate in this initiative in a previous e-mail.

The ISMRM aim was to design a survey that is appropriate for Neuroradiologists practicing in different regions around the world. Hence, your contributions would be very much appreciated. However, please, do not forward the provided link directly to others. The link is intended for your personal

Honeysuckle Health & NIB submission to ACCC

The Australian Medical Association (AMA) have called for the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) to block a proposal to allow a major buying group, which threatens to introduce costly and inefficient United States-style managed health care in Australia.

The AMA President Dr Omar Khorshid said the AMA had made a further submission recently to the ACCC calling on it to abandon its draft authorisation to allow Honeysuckle Health and NIB to form a buying group to collectively negotiate and manage contracts with healthcare providers on behalf of private health insurers and other health care payers. This rejection of US-style managed health care is also supported by the Council of Procedural Specialists (COPS) and other medical colleges and societies.

If any members feel they would like to learn more about this issue and/or register their disapproval against managed care models in Australia please go to:

[Say NO to US managed health care. Send the Eagle Home.](#)



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ANZSNR Research Committee

As discussed at the 2021 AGM, we have continued to pursue the idea to develop an ANZSNR Research Subcommittee to promote a culture of research and potentially providing some financial support for grant applicants within the ANZSNR.

After careful consideration, a two-tiered system to govern this work was needed – an overarching subcommittee to set criteria for awarding grants and making recommendations to the Executive to release funds and a Working Group, tasked with assessing applications on an annual basis.

Terms of Reference for the subcommittee and working group have been drafted in consultation with interested ANZSNR members. The drafted ToR will be considered by the Council followed by Expressions of Interests to fill the roles.

Some of the identified key guiding principles for this work are:

- Ensure well balanced membership of the subcommittee and working group in terms of gender, demographics, age groups, and areas of interest/expertise. These bodies should be a true reflection of the neuroradiology communities in ANZ.
- Clearly articulate the intended recipients of the grants.
- Manage any conflicts of interest with awarding grant monies.

Prostheses List Reforms

In the July 2022 Federal Budget, the government announced reforms impacting private health insurance funding for products listed on the Prostheses List (PL).

The reforms include removal of specific groups of products listed in the General Miscellaneous Category of the list and there are concerns that the removal of these products will not be accounted for in confidential contractual arrangements between health funds and hospitals, and therefore not be made available as a treatment option for clinicians.

The products identified for removal are informed by a [report by EY commissioned by government](#):

The Department of Health released a [Prostheses List Reform Consultation Paper](#) – Purpose, Definitions, and Scope for comment by 17 September 2021.

Interested members are encouraged to review the Paper and provide comment, by 17th September.



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Advertising Positions Vacant

The ANZSNR website has a Positions Vacant page on the website.

If you would like to advertise a position vacant, please feel free to reach out to the secretariat at secretariat@anzsnr.org.au



ANZSNR's Not for Profit Status

The application for ANZSNR to gain not-for-profit status has now been submitted and is with the ACNC for assessment.

We are expecting an outcome to our application over the coming months and will keep members updated as it progresses.

INR Fellowships in Australia and New Zealand

The ANZSNR is aiming towards maintaining a list of INR Fellowship positions in Australia and New Zealand. Vacant fellowship positions can also be advertised on the ANZSNR website.

If you have an INR fellowship position at your department, could you please contact the secretariat – secretariat@anzsnr.org.au to share the details.

Who is my Branch Representative?

Each Council meeting, ANZSNR Council members provide an update on the key issues and achievements in their Branch.

If you would like to get in contact with your local Council member to raise a local issue, advertise an educational, scientific or research opportunity or to highlight an area of achievement, please contact the secretariat who will put you in contact with your local council representative.

A full list of council rep's is listed below –

Benjamin Moon	NZ
Graham Dunn	NSW
Andrew Cheung	NSW
Elaine Lui	VIC
Ronil Chandra	VIC
Tim Phillips	WA
Laetitia de Villiers	QLD
Christen Barras	SA

The Council Position for the ACT and Tasmania remain open.

If you are interested in applying, please contact the secretariat@anzsnr.org.au