

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE UPDATE FOR ANZHNCS AGM SATURDAY 30/08/25 5.15-6.00 PM

SLIDE 1

I would like to thank my colleagues in this committee, Eng Ooi, Julia Crawford and Sally Ng. Particularly Eng for undertaking the mammoth task of organising this year's ASM, which is a huge success, and Julia for tirelessly leading our society with her drive and wisdom as President. Thank you Sally for your excellent work with this year's webinar on head and neck lymphoedema. Society Membership is in a very healthy steady position, with a total of 251 members currently. Note that this report is as of August 2025, so to include the increased membership uptake reflective of ASM registration. There are likely a few drivers for this positive maintenance year of membership.

The decision to cease the requirement of a proposer and a seconder in 2024 reduced the barrier for the joining process. All applications continue to have their membership with AHPRA or other professional registration bodies checked and CVs are reviewed by the Professional Standards and Membership Committee. Keeping membership at a low cost of \$220 for an Australian member with a one-off joining fee of \$50, which is less expensive than other discipline-specific memberships across-the-board.

This year's ASM program and surrounding events has been the major membership driver, with membership increasing from 183 to 251 between July and 20th August. As the Society's membership fee largely negates the delegate cost difference for a non-member ASM compared to a member, this has strongly motivated membership. We have also continued to waive the initial one-off joining fee of \$50 if people join while registering for the AGM. Huge thanks to Eng and the Adelaide ASM organising committee.

SLIDE 2

Membership by state is in a steady state. NSW and VIC continue to be the largest membership groups. There has been a slight increase in SA members and slight decrease in VIC members which reflects ASM location.

SLIDE 3

Surgeons remain the largest specialty. Membership diversity is one of the Society's main goals. Professional diversity background has continued since its improvement in 2023, with increases not only in Nursing and Allied Health, but we now have more Oral Medicine, Dentists, and Anaplastologist and Lab Researchers. Webinar initiatives developed 3 years ago to appeal to a wide specialty group background have also been successful, organised by our Communication and Education Sub-Committee led by Eric Khoo.

SLIDE 4

Grant recipients