

29th May 2020

Dear Members,

The Executive of the ANZCP wishes to inform our membership and supporters of the College that we have made the difficult decision to cancel the scheduled ASM to be held in Sydney in November, 2020. This has not been an easy decision for the executive, however we feel on the balance of all the factors currently known it would not be in the best interests of our members, our College, our corporate partners and most importantly our patients to hold the ASM in Sydney this year.

Many of the groups that we work closely with have also cancelled or postponed their meetings, and as many of you may be aware, the Australian and New Zealand Society of Cardiac and Thoracic surgeons (ANZSCTS) Meeting also in November in Wellington has been cancelled.

The COVID-19 pandemic has made the lens by which we evaluate our actions focus in different ways, and during this initial phase of the pandemic we have all been exposed to changes in both our professional and private lives. One of the learnings from the last few months has been the value we can gain from communicating together via internet applications such as Zoom and Go-to-Meeting, for both small team chats, and large webinars and even for meetings. We held a very successful COVID-19 webinar a few weeks ago, which allowed us to share some of our experiences and challenges that we have faced over the past few months. We plan on holding another in early June.

The executive are currently developing a virtual ASM and AGM, to be held around the time of the planned meeting in November and we will be in contact with you all soon sharing the progress of the meeting. The 2021 ASM will be a multidisciplinary meeting held in Cairns in November, in conjunction with ANZSCTS, the International Society for Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery and ANZ Cardiac Anaesthesia Special Interest Group. In 2022 we are planning to return to Sydney, where the 2020 meeting was to be held.

On behalf of the Executive of the ANZCP, I thank you for your ongoing support of the College and hope that you and your families have been kept safe during these difficult times.

Yours faithfully,



Rob Baker
President
Australian and New Zealand College of Perfusionists