AGES
XXIV ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING
2014

Tomorrow’s Theatre Today
Robotics. Instrumentation. Vision

27–29 March 2014
Hilton Sydney Australia

International Faculty
Assoc. Prof Pedro Escobar Puerto Rico
Dr Marit Lieng Norway
Dr Thomas Payne USA
Dear Colleague

Modern gynaecological surgery has embraced technological changes at a staggering rate. Never before have so many variations of techniques, instrumentation and entirely new procedures been available. Technological changes have required us all to keep pace with both the capacity to perform these procedures and the science that underpins their success—or their failure.

Consider that it is only 24 years since the first laparoscopic hysterectomy was reported and then consider the varied instruments used to take pedicles, improve vision and complete every aspect of the procedure laparoscopically. Now with the age of robotics upon us, this new tool needs to be assessed and learned having entered the Australasian marketplace.

Visual technology has brought about 3D camera systems, high definition picture quality and image capture systems that enable surgeons to perform better than ever before with the precision and clarity essential for the complex and prolonged pelvic surgery we now consider routine. Add to this a range of hysteroscopic instruments that simplify and automate many complex or uncommon procedures and surgeons have never had more choice in the operating room.

Reputed international stars Pedro Escobar from Puerto Rico, Marit Lieng from Norway and Thomas Payne from the USA will delight, surprise and present all manner of technologies from road-testing what we have now, to demonstrating live robotic surgery as it becomes more readily available in Australia and New Zealand. So many choices, so many operations, so many variations.

But what impact do all of these choices have on the outcomes for women? Do these far-reaching technologies impair rather than improve training? Can we convince ourselves (and our patients) that this vast array of dials and gadgets, tools and transformers are essential to their gynaecological care?

Of course, some surgical techniques come with bullet-proof science to validate and substantiate these ideas and ideals, indelibly etched into the surgical marketplace. Other technologies have a less solid foundation with some, such as laser laparoscopy, falling almost completely from the landscape. So in keeping with AGES’ promise to deliver the very latest in science, technology and gynaecological surgery, we look forward to welcoming you to Sydney in March 2014 to dissect, discuss and demonstrate what we find in the operating room of today and tomorrow.

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DAY 1
Thursday 27 March 2014

0730-0800  Conference Registration
Hilton Sydney
Level 3 Ballroom

0800-0810  Introduction and Welcome  J Tsaltas, J Abbott

0810-0830  SESSION 1
Techniques and Technology in Minimally Invasive Gynaecological Surgery
T Manolitsas

0830-0850  Is Natural Orifice Transluminal Endoscopic Surgery (NOTES) to the patient’s advantage?
A Rane

0850-0910  Power and the Passion – harnessing energy for minimally invasive surgery
S Lyons

0910-0930  Technological challenges in small spaces – intrauterine transformation
H Won

0930-1000  Panel discussion and questions from the floor
Transponder Session
Moderators: J Tsaltas, J Abbott
Panel: S Lyons, T Manolitsas, A Rane, S Salfinger, H Won

1000-1030  Keynote Lecture
Robot-assisted hysterectomy – the large uterus
T Payne

1030-1100  Morning Tea and Trade Exhibition

1100-1120  SESSION 2
Making Dollars and Sense
S Marinchek

1120-1135  Success and failure in the gynaecological business place
J Abbott

1135-1150  Costing technology and patient outcomes – making sense of the dollars
R De Abreiu Lourenco

1150-1200  Questions

1200-1230  Keynote Lecture
Intrauterine pathology: the evidence for diagnosis and management
M Lieng

1230-1330  Lunch and Trade Exhibition
Digital Communications Presentations and Adjudication

1330-1350  SESSION 3
Free Communications
Chairmen’s Choice

1500-1530  Afternoon Tea and Trade Exhibition

1530-1715  SESSION 4
Robotic Surgery in the Pelvis: How Far Can You Go?
J Tsaltas

1530-1545  Becoming accredited in robot-assisted surgery – AGES and the College
J Tsaltas

1545-1600  Mini-laparoscopy, LESS, robotic single site and the next frontier in minimally invasive surgery
P Escobar

1600-1615  And this little piggy went wee, wee, wee, all the way home – a urological robotic story
J Vass

1615-1630  Robot-assisted reduced port hysterectomy: dual site and single site
T Payne

1630-1715  Spoilt for choice – which surgical mode to use and when?
Transponder Session
Panel discussion
Moderators: A Yazdani, H Merkur
Panel: J Vass, D Chou, T Payne, M Lieng, P Escobar, A Lam

1715-1815  Welcome Cocktail Reception
Hilton Sydney
Bondi Beach
Day 2
Friday 28 March 2014

Level 3 Ballroom

0815-1030 SESSION 5
Live Surgery
Transmitted from Westmead Private Hospital
Moderators: G Cario, J Cook, J Pardey, D Rosen

0845-1030 Live Surgery Transmission
Robot-assisted hysterectomy - multiport  P Escobar
Robot-assisted hysterectomy - single site  T Payne

Evidence for robotics
Robot-assisted hysterectomy & myomectomy  V Qin
Robot-assisted gynaecological oncology  A Arnold
Robot-assisted pelvic floor surgery  C Wong

1030-1100 Morning Tea and Trade Exhibition

1100-1230 SESSION 6
Scared by the Scar: Caesarean Scars at Surgery

1100-1115 Scars and early pregnancy: ectopics and infertility  A Yazdani

1115-1130 One layer or two?  M Lieng

1130-1145 Caesarean scars and hysterectomy – using technology to optimise outcomes  V Yang

1145-1200 Questions

1200-1230 Keynote Lecture
The retroperitoneum: not only for the oncologist  P Escobar

1230-1330 Lunch and Trade Exhibition
Digital Communications Presentations and Adjudication

1330-1500 SESSION 7
Free Communications

1500-1530 Afternoon Tea and Trade Exhibition
Digital Communications Presentations and Adjudication

1530-1600 The Perpetual Dan O’Connor Lecture
How technology has changed the world of fertility  R Jansen

1600-1645 SESSION 8
Blood is Bad

1600-1615 Medical management of horrific haemorrhage  T Manley

1615-1630 Critical management of the shocked patient  C Downs

1630-1645 Questions and discussion

1700 AGES Annual General Meeting

1930 for 2000
Gala Dinner
Catalina
Lyne Park, Rose Bay

Award winning Catalina is a sleek minimalist building with its toes in the water of one of the most spectacular harbours in the world. Inspired by the unobstructed views of Shark Island, passing ferries, windsurfers, sailing boats, and seaplanes in Rose Bay, Catalina’s Executive Chef Paul McMahon has developed a flavoursome, balanced Australian menu with Mediterranean flavours to match the location.
DAY 3
Saturday 29 March 2014

0830-1000 SESSION 9
The Surgeon’s Toolbelt

0830-0845 SILS entry devices
H Najjar

0845-0900 Visionary changes in surgery (3D cameras)
H Merkur

0900-0915 iSurgery
M Ruff

0915-0930 Sonographic advances that change the way surgeons view surgery
V Lanzarone

0930-0945 Cool tools that we could use: can we borrow that?
S Salfinger

0945-1000 Questions

1000-1030 Morning Tea and Trade Exhibition

1030-1315 SESSION 10
Sharing Technologies in an Ever-Changing World

1030-1100 Cost and robot-assisted surgery in gynaecology – a complex problem
P Escobar

1100-1130 Simulation stimulation – educating in a technological world
M Lieng

1130-1200 The successful robotic program: building it step by step
T Payne

1200-1300 Debate
Moderators: J Tsaltas, A Yazdani
That robot-assisted laparoscopy will replace conventional laparoscopy
For: T Manolitsas, D Rosen
Against: G Jenkins, M Levitt

1300-1315 Awards and close
J Tsaltas, J Abbott

TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIPS

AGES TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIPS IN 2014
Applications are now invited for two AGES Travelling Fellowships in 2014 each to the value of AUS$7500

These two Fellowships will be awarded at the AGES XXIV Annual Scientific Meeting 2014 to Trainees or to Fellows within five years of graduation.

Applicants are asked to submit the following documents:
1. A Travelling Fellowship objective outlining the purpose and proposed itinerary. This document should be no more than 2 pages and submitted as a word document or PDF.
2. A Curriculum Vitae, highlighting relevant strengths in the area of gynaecological surgery, training and research.
3. Three (3) independent referee reports supporting the Fellowship applicant. A referee report should be no more than one page and be specific to the Fellowship planned.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2014

Points will be awarded on the following basis:
1. Travelling Fellowship objective: 10 points
2. Curriculum Vitae: 10 points
3. Independent referees supporting fellowship: 5 points
Total: 25 points

Please note:
• Fellowships will not be awarded for the sole purpose of attending conferences.
• A Travelling Fellowship must be taken in the year it is awarded, and the recipient is required to:
  - Present a report on his/her Fellowship at the next AGES Annual Scientific Meeting, or appropriate alternate meeting (e.g. AGES Pelvic Floor Conference)
  - Submit a manuscript of his/her Fellowship for publication in eScope.
  - Both of these are expected in the subsequent year following the award

Applications are to be forwarded as email attachments to:
Ms Michele Bender, AGES Executive Director:
executivedirector@ages.com.au

AGES Membership application forms are available at www.ages.com.au or from the AGES Secretariat
FREE COMMUNICATIONS

AGES invites abstracts for oral, video and digital free communications at the AGES XXIV Annual Scientific Meeting 2014 Tomorrow’s Theatre Today.
The Free Communications sessions will be held on Thursday 27 and Friday 28 March 2014
AGES brings presentations to the digital age with our new interactive sessions – DCS or Digital Communications Sessions. The format for this is an interactive presentation of your work. In its simplest form, this is a digital poster – the same as you will have done in previous years, but without the printing, carrying, pinning up, picking up when it has fallen down, and carrying home. Now take your still communication and make it come alive for your viewing audience. There will be a ‘touch screen’ and viewers will be able to open embedded videos, graphs or images. It is in your Power to make a Point.
The DCS sessions will be presented on LCD screens located in the Trade Exhibition, and you will have the opportunity to present your DCS during the meeting. The prize will be awarded for content, presentation and creativity. We look forward to including your work in this new presentation style.
All abstracts selected will be published in the Conference Abstract and Program Book.
AGES will award the following prizes at the final session of the Conference:

**Best Free Communication**
All presenters of free communications, regardless of Fellow or trainee status, with the emphasis on scientific merit
$1000

**Outstanding New Presenter**
Open to all first time presenters at an AGES meeting. This award is to encourage new trainees and Fellows who have never previously presented.
$750

**Outstanding Video Presentation**
All video presentations
$750

**Outstanding Trainee Presentation – the Platinum Laparoscope Award**
All trainees and Fellows in the AGES training program, or Fellows in their first year post-training to reflect work completed during training
$750

**Best Digital Communications Presentation**
All digital communication presentations
$750

FREE COMMUNICATIONS INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS

1. The abstract submission deadline is Friday 24 January 2014.
2. All abstracts must be submitted online at www.ages.com.au. Faxed, posted, and abstracts submitted via any other email address will NOT be considered.
3. Abstracts must be in English language only.
4. Maximum 400 words/3050 characters with NO pictures, graphs, tables or images.
5. References are excluded from the word limit but must be restricted to THREE ONLY.
6. The decisions of the selection committee are final.
7. All oral/video presentations will be 7 minutes in duration and 3 minutes question time, with no exception.
8. All digital submissions must adhere to the following guidelines:
a. Submissions should use PowerPoint to allow for conversion into the final DCS.
b. Still images are best sent as jpegs
c. Video images should be saved as mpeg1/2/MOV/HD (no avi files please) with a maximum file size of 3 megabytes.
d. You should indicate on your DCS when there is an interactive component that can be mouse controlled.
e. All DCS presentations must be received by Friday 14 February 2014 for conversion, checking and installation.
9. Successful applicants for the Free Communications program will be notified by Friday 7 February 2014.
10. Presenters of accepted abstracts are required to pay for registration to AGES Annual Scientific Meeting XXIV 2014 by Friday 14 February 2014.
11. All presentations at the Conference will be via the Conference laptops. No personal laptops will be used for presentations. All presentations including videos must be sent in advance to the Conference Organiser. Details will be forwarded to you with acceptance of your abstract.
12. Any conflict of interest/sponsorship must be declared at the commencement of any presentation.
13. Failure to follow the instructions for submission of abstracts may result in rejection of your document.
14. By submitting an abstract you agree that Copyright of the abstract(s) is assigned to AGES only for the purpose of publication in the Conference Abstract Book and (if applicable) media releases/reports.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY 24 JANUARY 2014
Hilton Sydney

488 George Street
Sydney
NSW 2000
Australia

P: +61 2 9266 2000
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All conference sessions will be held at the Hilton Sydney. The Hilton Sydney is in a prime central location in the Sydney CBD. It is located in the heart of the city’s shopping, entertainment and business district. Following an AU$200 million renovation, this chic hotel boasts state of the art amenities, stylish bars, the city’s largest health club and fine dining. All guests have access to the health club, ‘LivingWell Premier Health Club’, which occupies an entire floor, complete with fitness facilities, saunas, steam baths, a 25-metre heated pool and a day spa.

Perhaps the biggest transformation is in the areas of dining and entertainment. The glass brasserie was designed by a star New York architect and is overseen by one of Sydney’s celebrity chefs, Luke Mangan. The Marble Bar, a fixture since 1893, has a new lease on life, with the Zeta Bar a sleek contemporary alternative.

CONFERENCE VENUE

Hilton Sydney

The Hilton’s guest rooms are well-executed and contemporary, all with wood floors and flat-screen televisions, frosted-glass bathrooms and ergonomic work desks.

Guest Room Plus
Providing guests with fresh use of space and the choice of twin or king, these comfortable rooms are bright and restful. Rooms offer a sleek, glass desk for work and chaise lounge for relaxation. Wireless internet access, an LCD TV and DVD player await for entertainment. The bathroom boasts spacious shower and unique Aquavision television. Special touches include Peter Thomas Roth amenities, fluffy bathrobe and slippers.

Deluxe Room
The Deluxe rooms feature wireless internet access, chaise lounge and LCD TV. The 4 point bathroom boasts a separate bath and shower plus special touches that include fluffy bathrobe and slippers.

Executive Rooms
Executive rooms offer contemporary décor, LCD TV, blackout screens, ergonomic work station with IP telephone and high speed wireless internet access, 4-point bathroom with separate shower and bath. These rooms are on the executive floor for access to the executive lounge. Executive rooms enjoy Executive benefits.

Suites
Available on request

Executive Lounge & Benefits
All Executive rooms and suites include
- Access to the Executive Lounge
- Exclusive check-in and checkout
- Concierge service
- Selection of daily newspapers
- Complimentary pressing and shoe shine (limited to one item per guest)
- Complimentary use of computers
- Six connectivity stations for laptop plug and play
- Complimentary wireless internet
- Continental breakfast served daily in the lounge
- Coffee, tea, and drinks throughout the day in the lounge
- Afternoon tea in the lounge: 3:00pm - 6:00pm
- Evening Drinks and canapés in the lounge: 6:00pm - 8:30pm (weekdays) & 6:00pm - 8:00pm (weekends)
REGISTRATION FORM

TITLE   FIRST NAME   SURNAME

ADDRESS   SUBURB   STATE   ZIP/POSTCODE

PHONE   MOBILE   FAX   E-MAIL

BADGE NAME   PRACTICE SPECIALTY   SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

Conference Costs   Tax Invoice

REGISTRATION FEES

Full Registration to AGES ASM XXIV

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<th>Category</th>
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Accommodation

Please book the following accommodation:

- Room Type Request:
  - King □
  - Twin □
  I will share my room with (name):

Booking Agreement

On behalf of each person named for whom this booking request is made, I have read, understood, and agree to be bound by the conditions set out in this Conference Brochure.

SIGNATURE

DATE

Payment by Cheque

Please send the registration form and cheque in AU$ made payable to 'AGES' to:

AGES
282 Edinburgh Road
CASTLECRAG
NSW 2068
AUSTRALIA

Payment by Credit Card

(Visa or MasterCard only)

CARD NUMBER

CARDHOLDER NAME

SIGNATURE

DATE

ACCOMMODATION

Sydney Hilton

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A special rate for full buffet breakfast in glass Brasserie is available for all AGES Hilton guests for AU$29. Payment is via the hotel at check out.

Registration and payment are now available online. Go to www.ages.com.au and follow the conference links, or

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Pelvic Floor Surgery - Going Native
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15 & 16 August 2014

**AGES /RANZCOG Trainee Workshop X**
Brisbane
2014

**AGES Focus Meeting Complications**
Perth
24 & 25 October 2014
CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY:

Should you or a member of your party be forced to cancel, you should advise the Conference Organisers in writing addressed to AGES, 282 Edinburgh Road, Castlecrag NSW 2068 Australia.

Multiple Meeting Registrants: no refunds apply.

Hotels and other suppliers of services, depending on date of cancellation, may also impose cancellation charges. Accommodation payments will be forfeited if the room is not occupied on the requested check-in date. Please note that a claim for reimbursement of cancellation charges may fall within the terms of travel insurance you effect.

The Conference Organisers reserve the right to cancel any workshop or course if there are insufficient registrations. Also, at any time, without notice and without giving reasons, the Conference Organisers may cancel or postpone the Conference, change the venue or any published timetables, activities, presenters or particulars without being liable for any loss, damage or expense incurred or suffered by any person.

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Registration fees do not include insurance of any kind. It is strongly recommended that at the time you register for the Conference and book your travel you take out an insurance policy of your choice.

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It is impossible to predict increases to cost elements such as government taxes and other service provider tariffs. In the event of such fluctuations or increases affecting the price of the Conference, we reserve the right to adjust our prices as may be necessary at any time up to and including the first date of the Conference, even though the balance payment may have been made.

If we are forced to change your booking or any part of it for any reason beyond our control – for instance, if an airline changes its schedule – we reserve the right to vary your itinerary and will give you, or cause to be given to you, prompt notice thereof.

Conference costs do not include: Insurance, telephone calls, laundry, food and beverage except as itemised in the brochure, and items of a personal nature.

TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION:

The Conference Organisers are not themselves carriers or hoteliers nor do we own aircraft, hotels, or coaches. The flights, coach journeys, other travel and hotel accommodation herein are provided by reputable carriers and hoteliers on their own conditions. It is important to note, therefore, that all bookings with the Conference Organisers are subject to terms and conditions and limitations of liability imposed by hoteliers and other service providers whose services we utilise, some of which limit or exclude liability in respect of death, personal injury, delay and loss or damage to baggage.

Our responsibility:

The Conference Organisers cannot accept any liability of whatever nature for the acts, omissions or default, whether negligent or otherwise of those airlines, coach operators, shipping companies, hoteliers, or other persons providing services in connection with the Conference pursuant to a contract between themselves and yourself (which may be evidenced in writing by the issue of a ticket, voucher, coupon or the like) and over whom we have no direct and exclusive control.

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ENTRY TO AUSTRALIA:

All participants from countries outside Australia are responsible for complying with Australian visa and entry requirements and re-entry permits to their own countries. Letters to support visa applications will be sent upon request, but only after receipt of registration forms and fees.

CONFERENCE BADGES:

Official name badges must be worn or produced on demand at all times during the Conference to obtain entry to all Conference sessions and to social functions. Proof of identity will be required for the issue of replacement badges.

The Conference Organisers:

References to ‘the Conference Organisers’ in the above Conference Information and Conditions mean Australasian Gynaecological Endoscopy and Surgery Society Limited ACN 075 573 367, Michele Bender P/L trading as Conference Connection ACN 03 402 328, and if the context requires, each of them severally.