



MEMBER ACTIVITY REPORT

2024



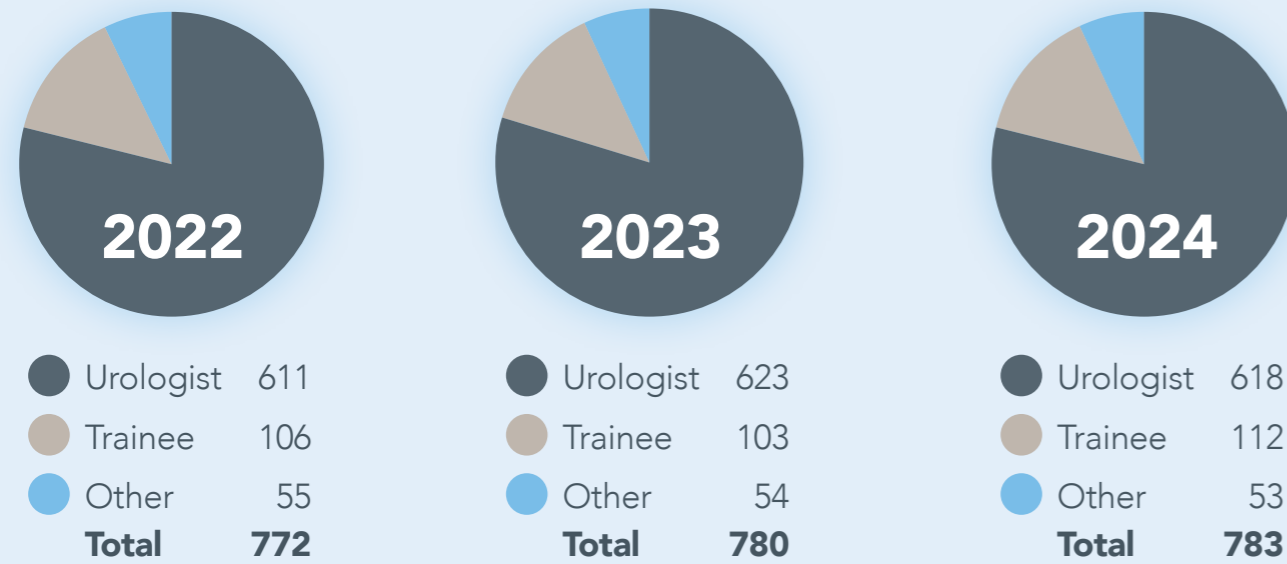
UROLOGICAL SOCIETY
OF AUSTRALIA
AND NEW ZEALAND

This document builds on the report which was introduced in 2021 to provide details to members about activities undertaken during the year by USANZ, ANZAUS and the many members who contributed their time and expertise to the Society.

OUR VISION:

A diverse, engaged and collegiate membership, recognised as the authority on urology.

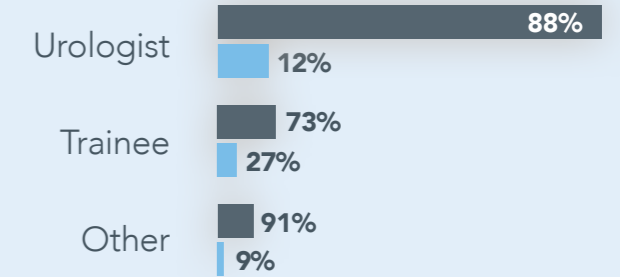
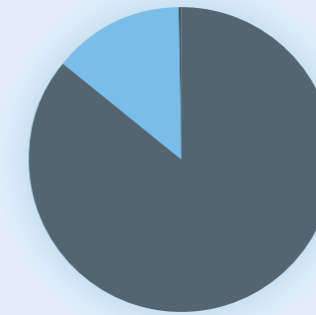
MEMBERSHIP BY CLASSIFICATION



MEMBERSHIP BY GENDER AND CLASSIFICATION

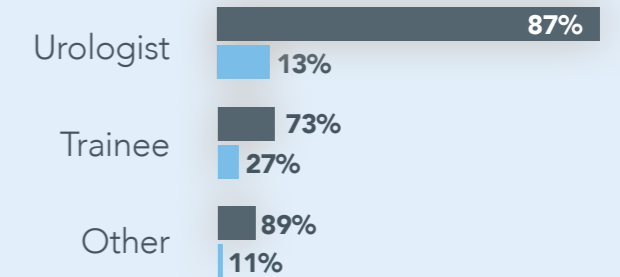
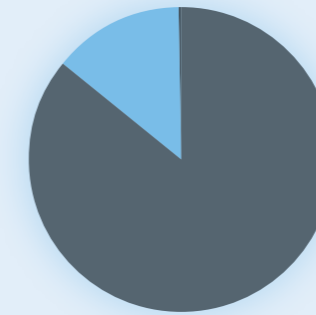
2023

● Male 86%
● Female 14%

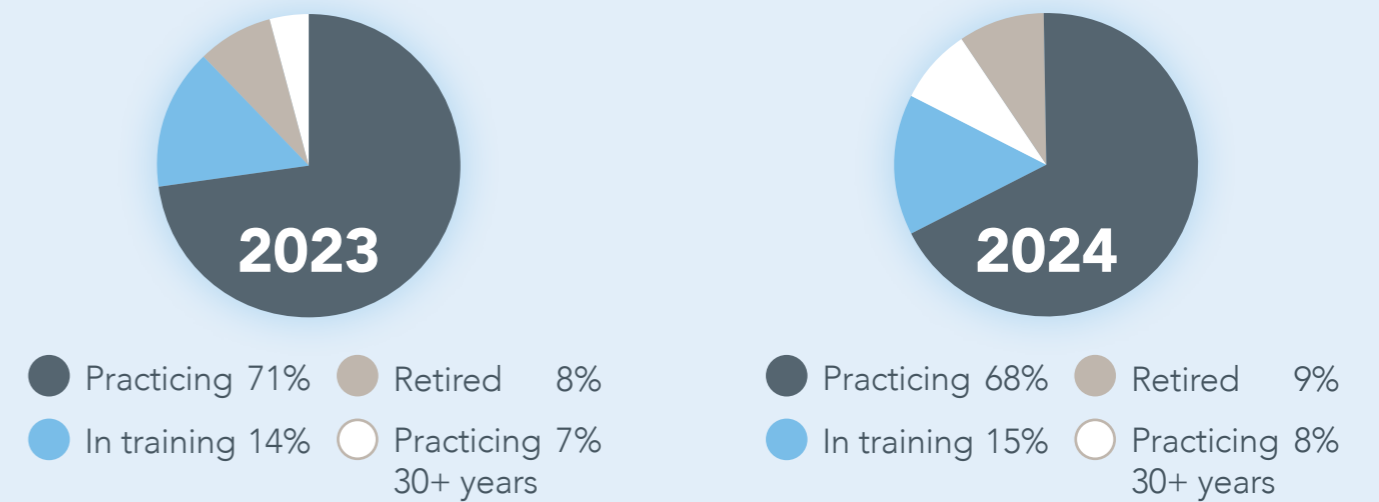


2024

● Male 85%
● Female 15%



WORKFORCE SNAPSHOT: Urologists and Trainees only



MEMBERSHIP SNAPSHOT

FULL TIME STAFF 2023

8.6

FULL TIME STAFF 2024

8.4

USANZ recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people as the traditional landowners of Australia and the Māori as the tangata whenua (people of the land) of Aotearoa New Zealand and respects their continuing connection to culture, land, waterways, community and whānau/family.

MEMBER SUPPORT

1. MEMBER OPPORTUNITIES

USANZ actively seeks out opportunities for member participation across a range of international and local activities.

- 29 Calls for Expressions of Interest issued to members (2023: 31 2022: 27, 2021: 10))

Speaking and other roles at international events

- 3 members nominated to UAA Young Leadership Forum 2024
- 2 program presenters at Joint Symposium SIU & USANZ session at SIU 2024
- Nomination to UAA for Lecturer at SIU 2024
- 3 members nominated to Australian Orthopaedic Association Emerging Leader Forums in 2024 & 2025
- Guest speakers at Sao Paulo Meeting of Brazilian Society of Urology 2024
- Guest speaker at 33rd Malaysian Urological Conference 2024
- Guest speaker at Korean Urological Association (KUA) 76th Annual Meeting in Seoul
- 5 members selected for mHSPC Urology Masterclass with Astellas in Toronto
- Guest speaker at Sri Lanka Association of Urological Surgeons (SLAUS) 25th Annual Academic Meeting
- Guest speaker at 18th Pan-Pacific Continence Society (PPCS)
- Guest speaker at ANZUP Best of GU Oncology Evening Symposium Dinner
- UAA Lecturer at the EAU 2025 meeting in Madrid
- 5 members selected for Astellas Education Series Presenters
- 3 members selected to contribute to Movember to national convenings in sexual health & wellbeing
- 5 members selected as Co-Chair/Presenters

for the EAU – USANZ session EAU25 Urology Beyond Europe Program in Madrid, March 2025

- Guest speaker at 10th Nepal Association of Urological Surgeons UROCON 2025 in Kathmandu
- 2 members nominated to UAA for International Faculty for UAA 2025 in Taiwan

Service on USANZ & ANZAUS Committees and Working Groups

- USANZ Board of Directors
- Daniel Christidis Scholarship Committee
- Society Awards Nominations Committee
- ANZAUS Management Committee
- Diversity & Inclusion Committee
- Audit, Risk and Finance Committee
- Section leadership roles
- Special Advisory Group leadership roles
- Surgical Women in Australia and New Zealand Urology (SWANZU) Committee
- ASM Organising Committee
- Aotearoa New Zealand Autonomy Project Working Group

Service on RACS Board of Urology and BoU Committees and Working Groups

- RACS Board of Urology (BoU)
- Regional Training Committees (comprising Training Supervisors)
- Education Sub-Committee
- Selection Sub-Committee
- SIMG Sub-Committee
- Training Post Accreditation Sub-Committee
- Urology Trainee Forum
- Flexible Training and Interruption from Training Working Party

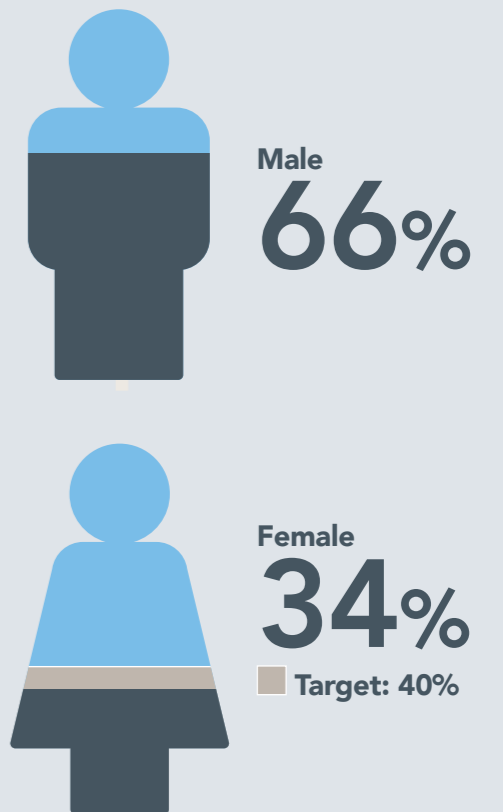
RACS Board of Urology also appoints its own representatives to sit on various RACS Committees.

2. PROMOTING MEMBER STORIES

USANZ seeks to actively promote members' achievements and success through its communications channels.

In 2024, USANZ published 88 stories (2023: 63) which highlighted 168 members (2023: 206).

Gender representation of 2024 member stories



Develop initiatives that members value and that respond to member needs.

2024

3. GRANTS, AWARDS & OTHER MEMBER RECOGNITION

USANZ awards and prizes and other recognition given to members during the reporting period. Excludes prizes awarded to non-members.



BAUS Trophy
Platinum Trophy
Best Oncology Presentation
Low-Arnold Award
Keith Kirkland Award
Villis Marshall Award
Alban Gee Award



USANZ Fellow
USANZ Medal x3



Daniel Christidis Scholarship
Boston Scientific Prosthetics
Travelling Fellowship
Australian Urological
Foundation Travelling
Fellowships x19



AUA Residents Bowl
Frank Gardiner Training
Award (2 members)
International Exchange
Program (4 members)



Junior Medical Officer Presentation Award x2 (AoNZ Section)
Trainee Award (AoNZ Section)
Chris Farrell Award for Best Registrar Presentation (NSW Section)
George Schnitzler Award for Best Registrar (NSW Section)
Frank Gardiner Section Award for Best Registrar Presentation (Northern Section)
St Paul's Ball Award for Best Registrar Presentation (SA/NT Section)
Best Presentation Award (SA/NT Section)
Robbie Roberts Prize for Best Registrar Presentation (Tasmanian Section)
Best Podium Presentation Award (Victorian Section)
Best Poster Presentation Award (Victorian Section)
Peter Lawson Award for Best Registrar (Victorian Section)
Contribution to Urology in Western Australia (WA Section) x6
The England-Watson Prize for Best Presentation (WA Section)

4. ADDRESSING BARRIERS TO PARTICIPATION

USANZ continued to take steps to address barriers to participation by members of the Society and their broader profession.

- A working party, established by the Board of Urology, proposed recommendations to support trainees in flexible training or returning after interruption. The Board of Urology is committed to implementing these to create a more supportive environment for trainee development.
- Aotearoa New Zealand Section included a dedicated session at each meeting devoted to Māori health, research, and education, and designed with Māori input.



5. EVENTS

The provision of educational events is a key service to the membership to highlight contemporary issues in urology and to assist members with CPD obligations.

Number of Attendees at USANZ Meetings

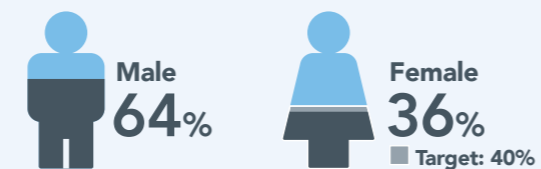
EVENT	*ATTENDEES
2024 Annual Scientific Meeting	721
USANZ Reception at 2024 AUA Meeting	190
SAG Meetings at 2024 ASM	66
Andrology	5
Endourology	10
FUSAG	19
GUSAG	10
Male LUTS	10
Paeds/Recon	12
2024 Section Meetings#	755
Tas	78
SA/NT	56
AoNZ	273
NSW	109
WA	72
Northern	86
Vic	81
2024 Education & Training Meetings	579
Trainee Week	144
Induction Course for SET Urology Trainees	41
BSCI Anatomy & Prosthetics Workshop	17
Cook Medical PCNL Workshop	15
NSW Education Program	97
VIC Education Program	168
QLD Education Program	97

USANZ Events:

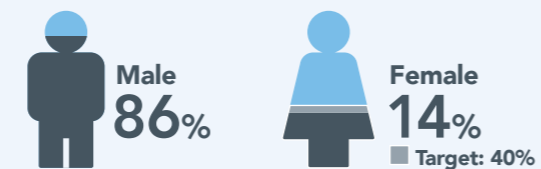
Gender Representation on Panels

USANZ adopted the Panel Pledge and committed to increasing the visibility and contribution of women leaders in urology and set a target of 40% women, 40% male and 20% flexible (40/40/20 target) to provide a benchmark against which progress will be monitored.

Chair and Presenter Roles: 2024 ASM

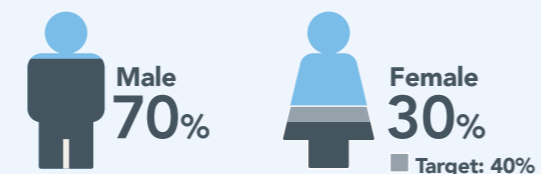


Faculty Roles: 2024 Trainee Week



Chair and Presenter Roles: 2024 Section Meetings

Each Section operates differently and USANZ is working with Professional Conference Organisers (PCOs) to identify ways to standardise reporting benchmarks and enhance our ability to report back to members.



* The number of attendees excludes sponsors and exhibitors

Data includes participants in programs run jointly (i.e., some Sections have separate nurse program streams).

6. CORE MEMBER BENEFITS

The core member benefits aim to inform members about USANZ activities, share information relevant to the craft, provide Continuing Professional Development and other opportunities to connect with other members.

Member Recognition – new initiatives in 2024

- Distributed **90** Certificates recognising both members and non-members service and achievements
- Finalised review of the ASM Awards and Recognitions Policy to document the criteria and processes around existing awards
- Introduced a pin recognising 25-years as a USANZ Member; **190** distributed
- Introduced a Photo Booth at the ASM as a new member benefit; in 2024, **39** members had professional head shots taken and distributed
- Developed policy on *Non-Members Advertising themselves as USANZ members* to protect USANZ brand and ensure affiliations are accurate
- Reviewed *Daniel Christidis Scholarship Guidelines*



Communications

UroNews:
Weekly Member Update
50 issues



UroScope:
President's Update
4 issues

Average open rate: **67%** (2023: 67%, 2022: 69%)
Average click rate: **30%** (2023: 26%, 2022: 24%)

Average open rate: **78%** (2023: 76%, 2022: 72%)
Average click rate: **15%** (2023: 20%, 2022: 32%)

Social Media Engagement

Five benchmarks were established in 2022 to measure our reach and engagement:

- Content posts:** number of posts made by USANZ across all social media channels
- Impressions:** number of USANZ content posts that appear in our followers' feeds across all social media channels
- Engagements:** number of times a follower of a USANZ social media channel has interacted with our content by liking, sharing, or commenting
- Content clicks:** number of times a follower has clicked the post to access additional information
- Audience:** total number of followers across all social media channels (Twitter/X, Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram)

	2024	2023	%
Content posts:	787	864	↓ 9%
Impressions:	247,951	418,950	↓ 41%
Engagements:	12,310	17,959	↓ 31%
Content clicks:	6,049	5,378	↑ 12%
Audience:	10,553	9,765	↑ 8%

Member Connection

- Member Directory
- UroChat Community

Professional

- *BJUI ANZ Supplement*
- *BJUI Journal* subscription discount
- *BJUI Compass* – 30% discount on fee to submit article to *BJUI Compass*
- *BJUI Knowledge CPD portal* – access provided to **612** members (2023: 640, 2022: 592) with auto upload to RACS CPD portal
- EAU Membership taken out on behalf of **643** members (2023: 634, 2022: 626)
- **22** free Positions Vacant advertisements posted to the USANZ website and distributed via the UroNews newsletter (2023: 44)
- Discounted MDO Insurance through the Avant Affinity Program with **263** members (2023: 260, 2022: 255, 2021: 260) utilising the discount
- Member logo & member certificates available upon request to promote Society membership
- **5** (2023: 10) letters confirming membership provided to support member applications to international societies or to certify status for other bodies

2024

MEMBER SUPPORT



ADVOCACY

Be the authoritative voice on urology with health decision-makers.



7. SUBMISSIONS: ADVOCACY FOR UROLOGICAL PROFESSION

USANZ and ANZAUS submissions or other actions taken, to advocate for the profession of urology and its members included:

General advocacy

- Raised concerns with ACSQHC regarding **Diagnostic Imaging Accreditation Scheme (DIAS)** and bladder scanners and the impact in applying for Medicare rebates for patients
- Provided guidance to Australian Defence Force on accepted **conversion factors between microliters and HPF** in pathology and the **Australian definition of microscopic haematuria**
- Developed articles for AJGP Special Edition in April 2024 – Urology focused issue
- Continued co-badging on 2024 updated version of 'AMA Informed Financial Consent guide' (IFC Guide)
- Contributed to **World Continence Week campaign**; encouraged people to overcome their hesitancy and seek help for incontinence
- Letter of Support - Application to the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) – PPHRI – 2024 Survivorship Care and Collaborative Research Prioritisation Grant Opportunity – **PROSPER**
- Letter of Research Support - further research into the GSM and supports the study 'Survey on Attitudes towards Genitourinary Syndrome of Menopause (GSM) among Primary Care Doctors, Geriatricians and Urologists'
- Submission to TGA on **Reforming Australia's Therapeutic Goods Testing Regulations**
- Contributed to 'Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia National Public Health Campaign' with Boston Scientific
- Contributed to '**Life After Treatment Patient Awareness Campaign** with Prostate Cancer Foundation of New Zealand (PCFNZ)
- Joint interactive workshop with Ambu on 'Enhance your expertise in Overactive

Bladder management with flexible cystoscopy and botox under local anaesthesia'

MBS, MSAC and listing matters

- Provided feedback to Department of Health and Aged Care on MSAC application 1765 – Request to amend existing items 73303 and 73304
- Provided feedback to Department of Health and Aged Care MSAC application 1744 - *Lutetium(nca)-DOTA-octreotate treatment for advanced neuroendocrine tumours and other high somatostatin receptor expressing tumours*
- Letter of support for MSAC application for ArteraAI for the indication of determining the use of androgen deprivation therapy in patients
- Provided additional feedback to Department of Health and Aged Care MSAC application 1781 - *Risk assessment in prostate cancer using Stockholm3 multiparametric blood test*
- Provided feedback to Department of Health and Aged Care on MSAC application 1686.1 - *Lutetium PSMA i&t for metastatic castrate resistant prostate cancer*
- Provided feedback to Department of Health and Aged Care on MSAC application 1788 - *ArteraAI Prostate Biopsy Assay for patients with localised prostate cancer*
- Provided feedback to Department of Health and Aged Care on MBS Targeted Consultation 85% Rebate Project Tranche 2 Consultation Items: 36649, 37204, 37205, 37318, 37339, and 37613
- Letter of support for MSAC application for *NanoKnife Irreversible Electroporation (IRE) therapy*
- Provided feedback to AMA on proposed urological items and fees for the AMA Fees List in response to changes to these services on the MBS

7. SUBMISSIONS: ADVOCACY FOR UROLOGICAL PROFESSION CONT.

Media and articles

- Issued media statement **King's surgery expected to drive increase in men having their prostate checked**
- Contributed to article on **Inside the Fight to Cure Chronic UTI for Weekend Australian Magazine** (President)
- Interview with *The New Daily* regarding the **incidental cancer diagnosis of King Charles** and how often these sorts of diagnoses are made where a patient goes to hospital for treatment of another condition (Past-President)
- Interview with *Australian Doctors Group* regarding the **update to the national guidelines to address chronic UTIs** (Dr Ashani Couchman)
- Interview with *The Guardian* regarding collaborative work occurring internationally to **tackle the cause of and treatment of UTIs** (Female Urology SAG Deputy Leader)
- Interview with *NZ Herald Wellington* regarding **Uromune vaccine for UTI** (Female Urology SAG Leader)
- Issued media statement **Prostate Cancer Cases to Double by 2040 but Australia Prepared to Deal with Surge**
- GUSAG Deputy SAG Leader featured on a SkyNews segment titled **Push to increase prostate cancer testing**
- President featured on *ABC's 7:30 Report* segment and in an article about the clitoris **'Don't know much about the clitoris? The International Cliteratti will help'**
- Dr Ashani Couchman featured on *The Project* segment discussing **long-term treatment options for recurrent and chronic UTIs** experienced by Australian women
- Interview with *SBS Health* regarding how the cold weather can impact urination (Prof Eric Chung)
- GUSAG SAG Leader interview in response to an article in *NZ Herald* **'Substandard prostate cancer procedures cutting Kiwi men's lives short'**
- Interview with the *Daily Mail Australia* regarding **Dangers of Over Hydrating** (Prof Eric Chung)
- Interview with *The Australian* regarding medical leaders call for **treatment and testing overhaul of urinary tract infection** (President)
- President featured on *Seven News* segment on **chronic UTI infections** and emerging treatment protocols
- Interview with *ABC Darwin* regarding men sitting to void habits and the difference between **sitting and standing when using the toilet** (Dr Ashani Couchman)
- Interview with *ABC Science* regarding **kidney stones** (Endourology SAG Leader)
- Issued media statement **Men Risking Their Lives over Prostate Cancer Myths**
- Interview with *Over Sixty* regarding Prostate-Specific **Antigen (PSA) testing** and how early detection is crucial for men with family history of prostate cancer (GUSAG Deputy SAG Leader)
- Interview with *AusDoc* regarding research into mapping the **anatomy of the clitoris** (President)
- Issued media statement **Reforms Fast Tracking Overseas Medical Specialists**
- Interview with *House of Wellness* regarding **urinary tract infections**: what they are, the symptoms, what causes them and how are they diagnosed? (Dr Ashani Couchman)
- Interview with *The Australian* regarding changes to **SIMGs Pathway** (President)
- Issued media statement **USANZ moves to reassure patients over false surgery claims**
- Opinion Editorial by the President for *Canberra Times* on **Fast-tracking foreign specialists can have unwanted consequences**

8. COMMITTEES: ADVOCACY FOR UROLOGICAL PROFESSION

USANZ pursues formal representation on external committees/groups to ensure urologists' professional interests have a voice with decision-makers as well as providing a platform for members in international forums. Representative appointments are either ex-officio roles or appointments made under the *USANZ Representation on External Committees Policy*.

USANZ also nominates members to the other external committees/groups where they fill roles that are not official USANZ roles but are still important to urologists' professional interests.

USANZ Representative positions held during 2024

- American Urological Association (AUA) International Member Committee
- Australian Medical Association (NSW) Societies Forum
- Australian Medical Association (VIC) Societies Forum
- RACS Professional Standards and Fellowship Services Committee (PSFSC)
- RACS Surgical Leaders' Forum
- Societe International D'Urologie (SIU) National Society Delegate
- SIU Deputy National Society Delegate
- Urological Association of Asia (UAA) Elected Council
- RACS - Australia & Aotearoa New Zealand Scholarship & Grant Committee (ANZSGC)

2024

ADVOCACY



CLINICAL STANDARDS

Use member expertise to promote and advance high standards of clinical care.

2024

CLINICAL STANDARDS

9. EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

USANZ pursues formal representation on external committees/groups to ensure specialist urological expertise informs clinical care. USANZ also nominates members to other external committees/groups where they fill roles that are not official USANZ roles, but where urological expertise informs clinical care.

USANZ Representative positions held during 2024

- Australasian Pelvic Floor Procedure Registry (APFPR) (Monash University)
- Australian Prescriber Stakeholder Network
- BJUI Journal Editorial Committee
- Continence Foundation Australia (CFA) Technical Reference Group for NQS Project
- EAU Guidelines Committee
- International Journal of Urology (IJU) Editorial Board (USANZ Nominated UAA Member)
- Prostate Cancer Foundation Australia (PFCA) Independent Expert & Consumer Steering Committee, Review of Clinical Guidelines for PSA Testing
- PCOR-ANZ Steering Committee

- RACS Board of Urology
- RACS Surgical Oncology Section Committee
- SIU Education Council
- SIU Research Council
- SIU Scientific Council
- TGA Surgical Mesh Expert Working Group (Therapeutic Goods Administration)

Non-USANZ roles filled by Urologists

- Urology Program Convenor, RACS Annual Scientific Congress 2025
- Cystectomy Registry Project working group, 'Pan Cancer Initiative' with Movember and the federal government

10. SUBMISSIONS: CLINICAL STANDARDS & PATIENT CARE

USANZ made several submissions or responded to queries related to improvements in clinical standards of care.

- Provided feedback to Department of Health and Aged Care Technology Assessment Branch on **Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Option Paper Review**
- Letter to Hon Andrew Barr, ACT Chief Minister, addressing concerns regarding the new legislation passed in ACT for the **treatment of children with Differences of Sexual Differentiation (DSD)**
- Submission to Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs on **issues related to menopause and perimenopause inquiry**
- Provided feedback to Australian Medicines Handbook on potassium citrate dosage
- Provided guidance to ArteraAI on what was required to support their MSAC application
- Supported 'Urology Primer - An Introduction to Clinical Urology' textbook
- **Co-signed letter** with AMA, medical colleges and professional societies **to federal government on key issues facing the health care sector**
- Letter to Hon Andrew Barr, ACT Chief Minister asking for a definition to **what constitutes Variation in Sex Characteristics (VSC) under new legislation**
- Provided feedback to International Collaboration on Cancer Reporting (ICCR) on Genitourinary and Prostate datasets
- Provided feedback to Department of Health and Aged Care on removal of fibrin tissue sealant items from Part D of the Prescribed List
- Letter to surgical specialties and RACS regarding the Medical Board of Australia **proposed introduction of fast-track processes to expedite SIMGs pathway** to gain specialist recognition in Australia
- Recommended four members to the National Health and Medical Research Council for the final PSA Guidelines Review
- Provided feedback to RACP on their curriculum review on Advanced Training
- Provided **feedback to AUA on draft guideline** on the Genitourinary Syndrome of Menopause
- Endorsed RACS Position Statement on Reuseable Surgical Gowns

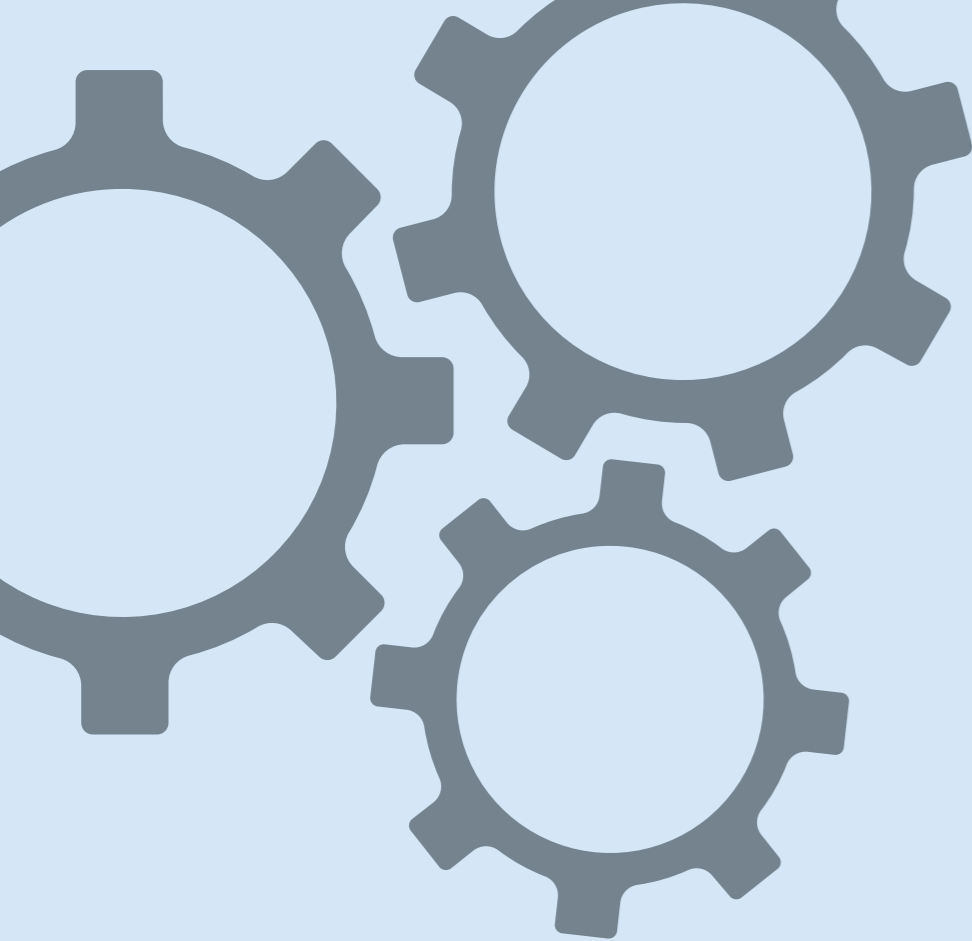
Responded to the following queries raised by a member of the public

- Concerns about Flexible Cystoscopy as a diagnostic procedure
- Workplace injury to genitals
- Use of 3D ultrasound or pelvic MRI when treating patients with pelvic floor issues

11. TRAINING & EDUCATION PROGRAM

USANZ and its members are committed to delivering the RACS Surgical Education and Training (SET) Program in Urology, ensuring the education and training is at a consistently high standard, and delivered within safe and optimal environments that are compliant with accreditation standards.





EFFICIENT & EFFECTIVE ORGANISATION

An efficient and enduring
Society continuing to serve
members into the future.

2024

EFFICIENT & EFFECTIVE ORGANISATION



12. AOTEAROA NZ SECTION AUTONOMY PROJECT

- Members adopted proposed changes to the USANZ Constitution at the USANZ 2024 AGM. Implementation was deferred until Aotearoa New Zealand Urological Society (ANZUS) is registered and a Cooperation Agreement between ANZUS and USANZ is in place.
- USANZ provided input into a draft ANZUS Constitution which is now with the New Zealand members to finalise.
- A Term Sheet was drafted to form the basis of the USANZ ANZUS Cooperation Agreement, including responsibilities of respective organisations.

13. GOVERNANCE & FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

During 2024, work concentrated on further developing the Society's approach to risk management.

- Developed a statement outlining the rationale for the Society's investment strategy and setting a long-term target of \$20 million in investable funds
- Defined the risk appetite and implemented a *Risk Management Framework Policy* and an *Audit, Risk & Investments Policy*
- Extended the compliance framework to include the adoption of a Modern Slavery Policy
- Developed and implemented a comprehensive risk register to systematically manage the Society's risks

Other work aimed at improving governance initiatives included:

- Reviewed the *Election of Vice-President Policy* prior to the election for incoming 2025 Vice-President
- Implemented regular status update reports to assist the Board to monitor progress against strategic objectives
- Conducted a Cultural Review to assess a) the office culture in the hybrid work environment and b) effectiveness of the relationship between the Board and Senior Management



2024

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