



4 - 5 November 2022



Obstetric Anaesthesia
Special Interest Symposium 2022
(OASIS22)

The Maritime Room
Auckland Viaduct

www.oasisconference.co.nz

Welcome from the Convenor



On behalf of the Organising Committee and the Department of Anaesthesia, National Women's Health, Auckland City Hospital, it is with immense pleasure that I am finally able to welcome you to Auckland, and to an inspiring and educational Obstetric Anaesthesia Special Interest Symposium, OASIS22. I hope that you are as excited as I am to once again meet up with colleagues in person, to embrace an exchange of ideas and question practices and beliefs.

I would like to say a huge thank you to our speakers, workshop facilitators and session chairs for their hard work and for their patience and commitment to OASIS22, despite also shouldering the challenges of the Covid years. Once again the OASIS organising committee have outdone themselves, and I must acknowledge the amazing support, stubborn optimism and endurance of my fellow convenors, Dr Mei Soo and Dr Nicola Broadbent, in bringing this event to fruition.

Thank you also to our wonderful sponsors, for your support especially through the postponements and uncertainties of the last few years, to The Conference Company and Lizzie Dooley for their excellent arrangements, and to our colleagues and families for their untiring support and help in planning this meeting. All that is left to say is I hope you have a wonderful conference!

Dr Jo Doa
Convenor OASIS22

Welcome from the Scientific Convenor



Tēnā koutou kātoa,

It has been a long journey for us getting to OASIS22, so we are incredibly excited to be sharing our labour of love with you today. I have relished the challenge of organising this year's scientific programme and thoroughly enjoyed the process.

This year's scientific programme is a mixture of old and new. We have continued with some OASIS staples, including updates on obstetric anaesthesia, the latest at National Women's, such as sustainability and waste reduction. Additionally, we have incorporated pressing issues that we, as healthcare professionals, are increasingly battling with. We have the privilege of hearing from experts discuss welfare and mental health issues, as well as medicolegal dilemmas. Finally, we wrap up the day with a crowd favourite. Our debate session aims to generate healthy discussion around a controversial topic - sit back and enjoy it.

I am grateful to our sponsors and speakers for persevering with us through multiple delays. It has been a challenging few years for all of us. I hope that OASIS22 will give you some valuable insight into your practice, challenge your thinking and allow you to meet some interesting people from all around Aotearoa and Australia. Thank you for being here today and your continual support for OASIS.

Dr Mei Soo
Scientific Convenor OASIS22




General Information

Complimentary WIFI

Enjoy complimentary wireless Internet access at The Maritime Room. Just search for 'The Maritime Room Guest Wireless' on your smart device and sign in using the password 'Koel2030'.

Interactive polling

We will be using Slido for our interactive polling and for submitting questions to our speakers. You can access this by:

- scanning the QR code displayed on the slides
- downloading the  app, or
- go to [slido.com](https://www.slido.com)

and use the code #OASIS22

Delegates are asked to set their mobile phones to silent when in sessions.

Continuing Professional Development

Participants in the 2022 ANZCA and FPM CPD program may claim this event under: Knowledge and skills activity: learning sessions - 1 credit/hour. Your certificate of attendance can be collected from the registration desk from afternoon tea onwards.

Special Dietary Requirements

If you noted a dietary requirement at registration, please see the venue staff who will be able to guide you to meals that meet your requirements.

Environmental Commitment

We're proud to have been doing everything we can to increase our environmental efficiency by using environmentally friendly materials and focusing on the ideals of reduce, reuse and recycle. We will be recycling any lanyards at the end of the conference should you not wish to keep them.

Toilets

The toilets are located off the common foyer area, which can be found to the right of the stairs.

Photography at OASIS22

Please be advised that promotional photos may be taken during the symposium for use in future advertising. Should you not wish for your photo to be taken please inform the team at registration.

OASIS 2022 Organising Committee

Dr Jo Doa (Convenor)

Dr Mei Soo (Scientific Convenor)

Dr Nicola Broadbent (Workshop Convenor)

Dr John Walker (Treasurer)

Conference Secretariat

Lizzie Dooley (Conference Manager)

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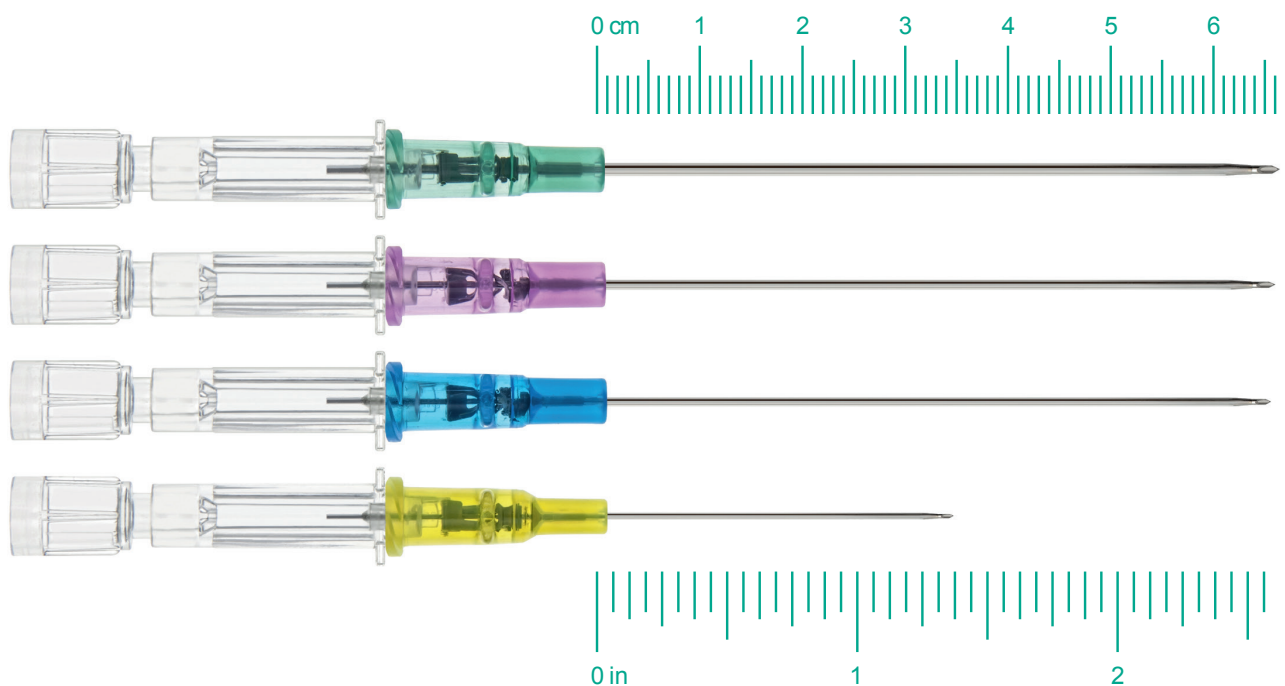
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2. ISO 80369-6:2016 - small bore connectors for liquids and gases in healthcare applications - Part 6: connectors for neuraxial applications.

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18	2.5	64	85	4251620-01

OASIS22 Symposium Programme

8.00am	Registration and coffee	
8.30am	Welcome Dr Matthew Drake <i>Clinical Director of Women's Health Anaesthesia, National Women's Health</i>	
	Session 1	Chair: Dr Mei Soo
8.40am	What's New in Obstetric Anaesthesia Dr Matt Hart <i>Anaesthetic Fellow, Starship Hospital</i>	
9.25am	Neuroaxial dilemmas in Obstetric Anaesthesia Dr Peter Heppner <i>Specialist Neurosurgeon, Te Toka Tumai Auckland</i>	
	Questions	
10.10am	Morning Tea	
	Welfare Session sponsored by MAS	Chair: Dr Liz Dunn
10.40am	Individual Armour for the Obstetric Anaesthetist: The Medicolegal Perspective Dr Chao-Yuan Chen <i>Specialist Anaesthetist, North Shore Hospital and medicolegal consultant for MPS</i>	
11.15am	Individual Armour for the Obstetric Anaesthetist: The Welfare Perspective Dr Alexandra Muthu <i>Clinical Lead for Occupational Health & Safety, Te Toka Tumai Auckland</i>	
11.55am	Improving Maternal Mental Health: What can we do to help? Dr Collette Francis-Lowe <i>Maternal Mental Health Specialist, National Women's Health</i>	
	Questions	



12.40pm	Lunch
	Session 3 Chair: Dr Nicola Broadbent
1.40pm	What's New at National Women's? Dr Martin Minehan <i>Specialist Anaesthetist, National Women's Health</i>
2.20pm	Rolling out neural connectors at your hospital Dr Matthew Drake <i>Specialist Anaesthetist, National Women's Health</i>
	Questions
3pm	Afternoon Tea
	Session 4 Chair: Dr Emily Buddicom
3.30pm	Lessons learnt - interesting cases at National Women's Dr Mei Soo <i>Specialist Anaesthetist, National Women's Health</i>
4.15pm	Debate session: Controversies in Obstetric Anaesthesia Do women have the right to dictate their birth plan? Dr Nicholas Walker <i>Specialist Obstetrician, National Women's Health</i> vs Dr Nicola Broadbent <i>Specialist Anaesthetist, National Women's Health</i>
5pm	Closing remarks Dr Mei Soo <i>Specialist Anaesthetist, National Women's Health</i>



What's New in Obstetric Anaesthesia?

Dr Matthew Hart

Dr Matt Hart is an anaesthetist trained in the UK and New Zealand. He has undertaken advanced fellowships in obstetric and regional anaesthesia in Auckland, and is currently working in Starship Children's Hospital. Additionally he spends a reasonable time in the air, having been involved in aeromedical retrievals for the last few years.

He has an interest in perioperative research and quality improvement, most recently having coordinated the New Zealand contribution towards an international study on the prevalence of perioperative anaemia. He is also enthusiastic about teaching, and runs a local Zoom based viva practice course for anaesthetic trainees in the Auckland region in his spare time.

Abstract:

This presentation aims to demonstrate to delegates the dynamic nature of their speciality, by exploring recent developments in areas relevant to the obstetric anaesthetist. Techniques pertinent to practice in this field, both familiar and new, will be discussed alongside recent evidence supporting or challenging their use. New guidelines from national bodies will be outlined, and

opportunities for future research will be highlighted. It is hoped that these updates inspire listeners to critically appraise the practice of obstetric anaesthesia in their respective institutions, and reflect on how this may be refined to provide women with the best quality care.

References will be included at the end of the talk through a link and scannable QR code.

Dr Heppner grew up in Auckland where he completed secondary education before going to Auckland Medical School. His neurosurgical training was undertaken in Auckland (Auckland City Hospital) and Sydney, Australia (Royal Prince Alfred and Royal North Shore Hospitals). After this he completed Advanced Fellowships in Complex Spine Surgery at Westmead Hospital (Sydney) and in Paediatric

Neurosurgery at the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne.

Dr Heppner has practiced as a Consultant Neurosurgeon since 2007 and was appointed Head of Paediatric Neurosurgery at Starship Hospital, Auckland, in 2015. He has been an elected member of the Board of the Neurosurgical Society of Australasia since 2015 and is the current Vice President.

Neuroaxial dilemmas in Obstetric Anaesthesia

Dr Peter Heppner



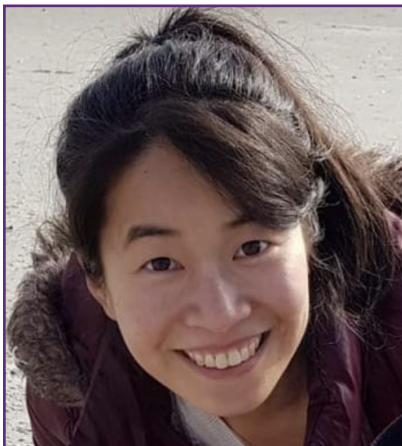
Abstract:

Neurosurgical conditions complicate pregnancy and delivery relatively rarely. They can however have significant implications for maternal and foetal health and for obstetric and anaesthetic decision making.

In this talk I will cover the most common cranial and spinal neurosurgical conditions and how they may impact on decision making in the delivery suite, paying particular attention to the implications for obstetric anaesthesia.

Individual Armour for the Obstetric Anaesthetist - The Medicolegal Perspective

Dr Chao-Yuan Chen



Dr Chao-Yuan Chen is a graduate of the University of Auckland Medical School. She holds a Masters of Medical Law and Ethics and works as a Medicolegal Consultant at MPS. She is a Fellow of the Australia and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists and works as a Specialist Anaesthetist in Te Whatu Ora Waitemata.

Abstract:

As a medicolegal consultant at Medical Protection Society New Zealand, Dr. Chen has good insight into the medicolegal regulatory environment in Aotearoa. Pulling from her experience in this area, she will shed some light into the conundrums and quandaries that have occurred in obstetric anaesthesia.

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Dr Alexandra Muthu is an Occupational & Environmental Physician. She has recently been seconded part-time to Te Whatu Ora as interim Clinical Lead for Occupational Health and is Clinical Lead for Occupational Health & Safety at Te Toku Tumai (ADHB). Her private practice provides specialist and advisory services for multinational corporations to small businesses. She is a certified Medical Review Officer (alcohol & drug). Alexandra worked nationally during Covid to ensure healthcare workers with vulnerability to Covid were given appropriate fitness to work advice, and workers had access to appropriate respiratory protection. She has helped lead the Occupational Health expert advisory group as they lobbied Te Whatu Ora to expand the shift 5 focus from the new workforce pipeline, to actively

supporting and sustaining the current workforce. Alexandra recently completed her 6-year tenure on the RACP Australasian Faculty of Occupational and Environmental Medicine Council and the Aotearoa RACP and AFOEM Committees, and as the Deputy Director of Training and on the Education Committee. She has been a Master's Course Co-ordinator, Clinical Director of Whakarongorau Aotearoa (National Telehealth Service), researcher at Mayo Clinic, and company doctor for Air New Zealand. Alexandra believes in protecting the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual health and well-being of medical professionals as outlined in the editorial in the New Zealand Medical Journal in 2019 on physician health & well-being.

Abstract:

Alexandra is an Occupational and Environmental Physician that believes in protecting the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual health and well-being of medical professionals. To be the best version of ourselves we need an approach for things that deplete, destroy, upset or bore us and to engage in things that inspire, challenge and refresh us.

Stressors that obstetric anaesthetists experience include critical incidents, adverse outcomes, personal health and whanau issues.

We work in high-paced environments with restricted resources and high expectations from others... and ourselves. If we fail to pause and take our own pulse this may lead to resentment, rumination, disengagement, presenteeism, resignation, stress, anxiety, burnout, poor coping mechanisms and illness.

This session will touch on key issues that may affect your welfare or the welfare of your colleagues. It will outline ways to approach these situations and where you can access support. There will be an opportunity for pre-work (self-assessment tools), self-reflection and interaction.

Individual Armour for the Obstetric Anaesthetist - The Welfare Perspective

Dr Alexandra Muthu





Abstract:

Dr Lowe has a long-established working relationship with the obstetric department at NWH. She has also worked with the acute pain service in managing women dealing with perinatal psychiatric conditions. The themes covered at today's talk include:

1. Perinatal psychiatry: what it is and what we do
2. Common perinatal conditions
3. Psychotherapy in everyday life. Supporting parents, who are often feeling quite fragile, with their birth experiences.
4. Case scenario to help illustrate difficulties faced by some parents.

Improving Maternal Mental Health: What can we do to help?

Dr Collette Francis-Lowe

I am a doctor and psychiatrist with many different interests and experiences. I love conversation and people's stories. I qualified as a doctor from University of Liverpool in 1990 and, I was lucky to spend time with Professor John Utting, and Professor Jenny Hunter in the ICU at Royal Liverpool Hospital, who was an advocate for women in medicine and anaesthesia.

I worked in Australia for 15 months, in A&E and as a flying doctor/general doctor up in the Torres Strait. All of us on the team were junior anaesthetists except for the Medical Superintendent, the lovely Dr Peter Holt, who settled there while travelling around the world in his boat, with his wife.

I came to New Zealand at the end of 1994 and started working here at National Women's Hospital in 1995. I did neonates and obstetrics & gynaecology as a house officer and was then offered a job in obstetric anaesthesia. I quickly realised that I was not cut out to be an anaesthetist as I am quite anxious and not good

in emergencies and decided to change tack after six months. I trained in parallel so that I could either do general practice or psychiatry and eventually opted for psychiatry as my career in 1997.

I have worked in Auckland throughout my psychiatry career and had experience in many different areas. I am blessed to have two lovely adult daughters. They were both born at National Women's Hospital, up the corridor from where I now work.

Outside of work, I enjoy being outside and engaging with as much rural life as possible. I have two kelpie-cross dogs and a station-bred horse. I love fixing my quad bike and have, to my great surprise, developed an interest in cars over recent years, doing oil changes, minor repairs, coolant flushes and changing brake pads. The workings of the car appeals to the mechanical side of my brain and permits me to use some of the physics principles learned in anaesthesia. Finally, don't ask me anything about dogs, horses or car maintenance as I will talk for ages.



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What's New at National Women's?

Dr Martin Minehan

(Marty is the one on the left)



Marty is a consultant anaesthetist working on Level 9 Women's Health at Auckland City Hospital. He has previously been a clinical director and is currently active in the sustainability space having lead a number of projects. He also works in private practice and has helped private hospitals with sustainability initiatives.

Marty is a member of the New Zealand Society of Anaesthetists Sustainability Network and Ora Taiao.

Abstract:

National Women's prides itself in pushing the boundaries and continually adopting new practices to improve the quality of our care. The past 3 years have spurred the department to reconsider the way we deliver care, its impact on the environment and the role we can play in influencing future generations of anaesthetists. This session today explores new ideas that we have trialed and the updated changes in our practice based on recent published evidence.

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Abstract:

The idea started small: implement the new ISO 80369-6 neural-specific connector standard on the labour and birth suite at Te Toka Tumai (Auckland) to reduce the risk of wrong route drug errors in labour epidurals. “OK” said the Perioperative Director, “as long as you change the whole hospital at the same time.”

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Neural Connectors for your hospital?

Dr Matthew Drake



Matthew originally planned to train as an obstetrician, however some enthusiastic obstetric anaesthetists persuaded him to combine his interest in obstetrics with a career in anaesthesia. Originally from the UK, he has been a full-time obstetric anaesthetist at the National Women's Hospital Te Toka Tumai (Auckland) for the last 9 years and is currently the Service Clinical Director for the National Women's Operating Rooms & Anaesthesia, and chair of the ANZCA NZ/NZSA National Obstetric Anaesthesia Network.

He was the convenor for OASIS15, scientific convenor for OASIS18, and has led quality improvement projects including the introduction of Enhanced Recovery after Obstetric Surgery, Anaesthesia for External Cephalic Version of Breech Presentation and the evaluation and

subsequent introduction of low dose 'mobile' labour epidurals.

Nationally he has been the anaesthesia representative on the HQSC's Maternal Morbidity Working Group, led the NZ-wide implementation of the national maternity early warning system (MEWS), and advised on various national guidelines including the most recent iterations of the Ministry of Health Postpartum Haemorrhage, Hypertensive Disease in Pregnancy, and Section 88 Referral guidelines.

He has a keen interest in multidisciplinary obstetric anaesthesia education, lecturing on the midwifery course at Auckland University of Technology, and as an instructor at PROMPT (Practical Obstetric Multi-Professional Training) and MOET (Managing Obstetric Emergencies and Trauma) courses.

Mei is a specialist anaesthetist at National Women's Health. Born in Malaysia, Mei moved to London, UK in 2003 to pursue medicine. Inspired by charismatic and kind consultant anaesthetists during her medical placements, she knew anaesthesia was for her by the 4th year of medical school. She considers obstetric anaesthesia her first love and therefore leapt at the opportunity to come to NWH to do a year-long fellowship in Women's Health. It did not take much for the wonders of Aotearoa to draw her in. Once she completed her anaesthesia training in the UK, she and her husband made the move to this beautiful country.

In addition to her role as Supervisor of Training, Mei has also written guidelines for NWH (epidural morphine in obstetric anaesthesia; pain management in intrauterine fetal demise) and she currently runs the Maternity Complex Care Area teaching programme to upskill midwives. Mei has been instrumental in formulating the Covid pathway for patients at NWH, working alongside her colleagues in ensuring a safe streamline management process for Covid patients. Their work has been vital in keeping the department safe throughout this pandemic. Mei is part of the PROMPT faculty in Auckland, NetworkZ, and the simulation team at NWH. Outside medicine, Mei and her husband, Reza, enjoy playing video games, building and collecting Lego and indulging in some delicious kai. This is her first stint organising a scientific programme for a conference, so she is a bag of nerves!



Lessons learnt - interesting cases at National Women's

Dr Mei Soo

Abstract:

In 2021, there were nearly 6500 births at National Women's Health with a LSCS rate of 40%. As a tertiary maternity centre, we see wahine from all over the country and the Pacific Islands. With this high volume of referrals, our department of anaesthesia regularly encounter a variety of obstetric cases that challenge our anaesthetic practice and thinking. This session goes through 3 cases that have certainly generated some lively discussion at our departmental meetings. We are excited to talk about these cases today and share our learnings with you. We will be canvassing your thoughts as we go along and we invite you to consider the potential differences in the management of these patients in your own departments.

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Debate session:

Pro - Do women have the right to dictate their birth plan?

Dr Nicholas Walker

Dr Nick Walker was born in National Women's Hospital and grew up in Auckland. After graduating from the University of Auckland in 2001, he worked for several years in provincial New Zealand before undertaking specialist training in obstetrics and gynaecology based at Wellington and Christchurch Women's hospitals. Nick returned to Auckland in 2011 to take up the positions of Chief Resident and staff specialist at National Women's Hospital. In addition to his public role, he provides LMC care as a private obstetrician.



Abstract:

Humankind has been continually reproducing for millennia. Successive generations have striven to improve the safety and comfort of this fundamental biological activity, culminating in today's modern hospitalised birth environment. We should take pride in having converted birthing, a hitherto difficult and sometimes dangerous journey, into an experience which would have been considered unbelievable even to our own grandmothers.

Martin Luther King Jr understood much about human rights, and to paraphrase his famous

quote, "the arc of the medical universe is long, but it bends towards a better patient outcome". Should we now offer women even more? Should women's reproductive choices be not just allowed, but expanded and enhanced? Should women have the right to dictate their birthplan?

If we believe in progress, if we believe in improvement, and if we are as good at healthcare as we think we are, the answers are 'YES'!

Nicola Broadbent is a specialist anaesthetist at Te Whatu Ora - Te Toka Tumai, splitting her time between Adult and Emergency and National Womens Anaesthesia, and she is the Workshop Convenor for OASIS22. Originally from Wellington she trained in anaesthesia between the UK and NZ after a soujourn in Far North Queensland (FNQ) as a junior doctor.

Her interests include perioperative medicine and epidemiology. She belongs to the ANZCA Perioperative Medicine Special Interest Group Executive and is convening a meeting for this group in Queensland later this month. She

also is a member of the Perioperative Medicine Steering Committee for the new Perioperative Medicine qualification in development. She is involved in the NZ Perioperative Network. She holds a Diploma in Public Health from the University of Auckland.

A lot of her time is absorbed by her interest in Perioperative Medicine. In her non-existent spare time she's to either be in her newly renovated kitchen baking or outdoors walking, trail running, paddleboarding or snowboarding. Also enjoying travel, she had her wings severely clipped by Covid, having not left NZ since 2019.

Debate session:
Con - Do women have the right to dictate their birth plan?

Dr Nicola Broadbent



Abstract:

Nicola has an interest in perioperative medicine, but at this meeting she is going to dust off her Public Health Diploma and first year philosophy papers to argue about the tension between the individual and the population in offering choices around maternity care. This can be a topic with strongly held positions so expect some irreverence to lighten the topic.....

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