

# BRIDGING THE DIVIDE

SURGICAL EXPERIENCE  
VS SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE  
NZICC, AUCKLAND  
12 14 MARCH 2026

## AGES ASM 2026 PROGRAM

Thursday 12 March – Saturday 14 March 2026

THURSDAY 12 MARCH 2026	
0700 – 0800	Conference Registration
0800 – 0930	<b>SESSION 1: Converting Pedagogy into Surgical Excellence</b>
0800 – 0830	Pōwhiri (Welcome Ceremony) Introduction to ASM - <b>Michael Wynn-Williams, Simon Edmonds &amp; Olivia Smart</b>
0830 – 0850	Keynote - Reimagining Surgery: Performance Coaching as the Catalyst for Excellence and Innovation – <b>Cara King</b>
0850 – 0910	Keynote - Teaching Maximally Invasive Surgery to the Minimally Invasive Surgeon <b>Sony Singh</b>
0910 – 0930	The Future of Surgical Education for the Trainee and Specialist – <b>Erin Nesbitt-Hawes</b>
0930 – 1030	<b>SESSION 2: Chairmans Choice</b>
1030 – 1100	<b>Morning Tea, Trade Exhibition &amp; Digital Free Communications</b>
1100 – 1230	<b>SESSION 3: Concurrent Sessions</b>
	<b>SESSION 3A: Lesion Removal and Lasting Relief</b>
1100 – 1120	Leaving the Laparoscopy for Later – <b>Emma Readman</b>
1120 – 1140	Planning Endometriosis Surgery Begins with Pain Education – <b>Sophie Gormack</b>
1140 – 1200	Integrating Trauma Awareness into Surgical Planning – <b>Chris Turnbull</b>
1200 – 1220	Healing Beyond the Physical: Psychological Recovery from Sexual Pain – <b>Hannah Blakely-McWilliams</b>
1220 – 1230	Panel Discussion
	<b>Session 3B: Creating Modern Families</b>
1100 – 1120	My Environment is Poison – <b>Kate McIlwaine</b>
1120 – 1140	"What, like its hard?!" – <b>Anna Lawrence</b>
1140 – 1200	Over the Rainbow, Dreams Come True – <b>Melissa Cameron</b>
1200 – 1220	Louis Vuitton Service on a TEMU Budget – <b>Leigh Searle</b>
1220 – 1230	Panel Discussion
	<b>SESSION 3C: Quick Updates for the Busy Gynaecologist</b>
1100 – 1110	Cost-Effective Excellence in Surgery – <b>Emma Jackson</b>
1110 – 1120	Home after Hysterectomy - How Soon is Too Soon? – <b>Jessica Dunning</b>
1120 – 1130	Silencing the Peri-operative Pain Signals – <b>Praveen De Silva</b>
1130 – 1140	Precision Medicine and the New Era of Endometrial Cancer Care – <b>Tom De Greve</b>
1140 – 1150	GSM: Uncovering the Silent Epidemic – <b>Olivia Smart</b>
1150 – 1200	Frontiers in Femtech – <b>Prathima Chowdary</b>
1200 – 1210	More than Just a Tummy Ache – <b>Saman Moeed</b>

*The program is subject to change without prior notice*

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1210 – 1220	Minimally Minimal Invasive Treatment of Fibroids – <b>Sarah Corbett</b>
1220 – 1230	Bleeding for Clarity - NZ AUB Guidelines – <b>Sathana Ponnampalam</b>
<b>1230 – 1330</b>	<b>Lunch, Trade Exhibition &amp; Digital Free Communications</b>
<b>1330 – 1530</b>	<b>SESSION 4: Concurrent Sessions</b>
	<b>SESSION 4A: No Scars, No limits, the Future is NOTES</b>
1330 – 1345	The Difficult V-NOTES Hysterectomy: Techniques and Troubleshooting <b>Supuni Kapurubandara</b>
1345 – 1400	Accessing the Adnexae – <b>Rachel Green</b>
1400 – 1415	V-NOTES Governance: Bridging Innovation to Everyday Practice – <b>Mark Ruff</b>
1415 – 1430	Fixation with V-NOTES – <b>Elliot Mackenzie</b>
1430 – 1450	Panel Discussion
	<b>Sharing International Societies' Knowledge</b>
1450 – 1500	Nipping it in the bud - pudendal neuralgia – <b>Michael Hibner</b> (AAGL)
1500 – 1510	Minimising obstetric risks after myomectomy – <b>Martin Hirsch</b> (BSGE)
1510 – 1520	The GESEA Training Programme: The European Approach to Training – <b>Istvan Argay</b> (ESGE)
1520 – 1530	Nosing around the bowel – NOSE – <b>Bernard Chern</b> (APAGE)
	<b>SESSION 4B: Innovation into Practice</b>
1330 – 1350	From Insight to Impact: Building A Culture Around Surgical Data – <b>Cara King</b>
1350 – 1410	Gimmick to Goldmine - The Ideal Business Case for Innovation – <b>Guru Shankar</b>
1410 – 1425	Robotics in Public Healthcare – <b>Caroline Mathias</b>
1425 – 1440	Moving Robotically into the Future – <b>Mark Slack</b>
1440 – 1455	Adaptive Platform Clinical Trials - A Rapid Research Innovation – <b>Akwasi Amoako</b>
1455 – 1510	Everything Hurts - Ergonomics for All – <b>Jacqueline Wong</b>
1510 – 1530	Panel Discussion
<b>1530 – 1600</b>	<b>Afternoon Tea, Trade Exhibition &amp; Digital Free Communications</b>
<b>1600 - 1700</b>	<b>SESSION 5: Accessibility to Healthcare</b>
1600 – 1615	Nga awa e rua: The Double Whammy of Ethnicity and Gender in Endometriosis <b>Jordan Tewhaiti-Smith</b>
1615 – 1630	The River Runs Deep: Trauma Informed Care in Your Daily Clinic – <b>Alexandra Diggles</b>
1630 – 1700	Interview of <b>Matire Harwood</b> by <b>Miriama Kamo</b>
<b>1700 – 1815</b>	<b>AATP Graduation Ceremony</b>
<b>1815 – 1930</b>	<b>Welcome Reception</b>

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FRIDAY 13 MARCH 2026	
0700 – 0745	<b>OLYMPUS</b> Breakfast Session - STEMInism: Women in Surgery Discussion with Caroline Ford, Erica Whineray & Keryn Harlow (Pre registration required)
0730 – 0830	Conference Registration
0800 – 0830	AGES Annual General Meeting (Members Only)
0830 – 1030	<b>SESSION 6: Consent, Communication and Complications</b>
0830 – 0845	The Importance of Consent in the Patient Journey – <b>Rachelle Love</b>
0845 – 0900	Comparing Surgical Consent on the Ground in New Zealand & Australia - <b>Sam Holford &amp; Katie Christensen</b>
0900 – 0915	Patient Advocacy: Closing the Gap - <b>Morag McDowell</b>
0915 – 0930	Panel Discussion
0930 – 0945	Learning from the Vaginal Mesh Experience in New Zealand – <b>John Short</b>
0945 – 1000	Effective Communication in Unplanned Challenges – <b>Justine Wright</b>
1000 – 1015	The Second Victim: Unseen Consequences – <b>Andreas Obermair</b>
1015 – 1030	Panel Discussion
1030 - 1100	<b>Morning Tea, Trade Exhibition &amp; Digital Free Communications</b>
1100 – 1230	<b>SESSION 7: Free Communications</b>
1230 – 1330	<b>Lunch, Trade Exhibition &amp; Digital Free Communications</b>
1330 – 1530	<b>SESSION 8: Surgical Experience</b>
1330 – 1415	<b>M&amp;M Surgical Performance</b> <b>Moderator:</b> Andreas Obermair & Cara King <b>Case Presenters:</b> Michael Wynn-Williams & Silipa Naiqiso
1415 – 1530	<b>Not-so Live Surgery</b> The Davinci SP Sacro-colpopexy – <b>Johnny Yi</b> The Robotic Sydney Shave – <b>Danny Chou</b>
1530 – 1600	<b>Afternoon Tea, Trade Exhibition &amp; Digital Free Communications</b>
1600 - 1730	<b>SESSION 9: Dan O'Connor Lecture &amp; Debate</b>
1600 – 1630	Dan O'Connor Lecture – <b>Cindy Farquhar</b>
1630 – 1730	<b>Debate: "Old Dogs, New Tricksters: My Experience is Better than your Gadgets"</b> <b>Old Dogs:</b> Lenore Ellett, Simon Edmonds, Jason Abbott <b>New Tricksters:</b> Kate Martin, Praveen De Silva, Keryn Harlow
1900 – 2300	<b>AGES 'Casino Royale' Dinner &amp; Charity Auction</b>



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## SATURDAY 14 MARCH 2026

<b>0830 – 0900</b>	<b>Conference Registration</b>
<b>0900 – 1030</b>	<b>SESSION 10: Endometriosis: Bridging the Divide Between Science and Surgery</b>
0900 – 0915	Translating Science into Solutions – <b>Caroline Ford</b>
0915 – 0930	The Living Guidelines: Evidence into Action – <b>Marilla Druitt</b>
0930 – 0945	Beyond the Cyst: Optimising Treatment Strategies – <b>Amani Harris</b>
0945 – 1000	Protecting the Bowel and Relieving the Pain – <b>Sam Mooney</b>
1000 – 1015	Surgery Above the Belt – <b>Sony Singh</b>
1015 – 1030	Panel Discussion
<b>1030 – 1100</b>	<b>Morning Tea &amp; Trade Exhibition</b>
<b>1100 – 1305</b>	<b>SESSION 11: Closing Session - From Clinician to Leader: Unlocking your Potential</b>
1100 – 1115	Sticking Your Head above the Parapet – <b>Andrew Connolly</b>
1115 – 1130	My Journey to Leadership – <b>Nisha Khot</b>
1130 – 1145	The Balancing Act – <b>Sony Singh</b>
1145 – 1200	The Surgeon Leader: Translating Surgical Skills into Inclusive Leadership – <b>Cara King</b>
1200 – 1220	Inspiring Others through Leadership – <b>Erica Whineray</b>
1220 – 1250	Panel Discussion Facilitated by <b>Petra Bagust</b>
1250 – 1305	Awards and Close of Conference
<b>1305</b>	<b>Lunch on the Go</b>