



#### Workshop Details:

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2026. University of Technology, Sydney, NSW, Australia**

**Cost: AU\$3520 (ANZAST Members). AU\$3960 (non-members)**

ASSET- Advanced Surgical Skills for Exposure in Trauma was developed by the American College of Surgeons and is considered one of the core trauma education skills courses administered by their Committee on Trauma. In Australia and New Zealand, the program is known as ABSET- Anatomically Based Surgical Exposure for Trauma.

Uncontrolled haemorrhage is the most common cause of potentially preventable death in trauma, including patients who sustain their injuries from either blunt or penetrating mechanisms. While exsanguination from blunt trauma most commonly occurs in the setting of severe chest or abdominal and pelvic injury, penetrating trauma can result in injuries to any region. Penetrating vascular trauma to the junctional areas of the neck, subclavian-axillary and groin areas is particularly challenging to access.

Directed by Professor Jeremy Hsu, a faculty of general and vascular surgeons experienced in the management of severe trauma will deliver this one-day, cadaver-based surgical skills course. In the context of clinical case scenarios, participants will be given the opportunity to perform a range of procedures to allow for surgical exposure of anatomical structures, that when injured, may pose a threat to life or limb. The program is aimed at trauma and acute care surgeons and fellows from any specialty, though particularly general, vascular, orthopaedic and cardiothoracic surgeons. The program is also well suited to surgeons who are members of our Defence Forces and are looking at being deployed.

The objective of the ANZAST ABSET Course is to provide participants experience to anatomical exposure in five key areas: neck, chest, abdomen, pelvis and upper and lower extremities. This will be achieved through:

- Participants being able to demonstrate knowledge of key anatomical exposures for the care of severely injured patients through prior reading of the course manual,
- Participants being able to demonstrate technical ability to expose important structures that when injured, may pose a threat to life or limb,
- Allowing participants to gain confidence in performing anatomical exposures independently.

The program is delivered over a whole day. The student-faculty ratio is low, with 1 faculty per 2 participants. This will allow for extensive faculty guidance and interaction with participants.

#### Who is ANZAST?

The *Australian and New Zealand Association for the Surgery of Trauma* (ANZAST) is a not-for-profit, public company limited by guarantee, that was listed with the Australian Securities and Investment Commission in February 2011. It was formed by a group of surgeons involved in the care of injured Australian and New Zealand patients.

The ANZAST Mission Statement is:

*To ensure seriously and critically injured New Zealand and Australian patients receive optimal and world-class surgical care.*

This goal will be achieved by overseeing post Fellowship surgical education and training, guiding the surgical trauma curriculum, supporting quality research, promoting effective systems of care and advocating on behalf of surgeons providing care to the seriously injured.



**ANZAST**

**AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION  
FOR THE SURGERY OF TRAUMA**