



INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITY for 24th April

Plastic Surgery in a global environment – the risks of medical tourism

A growing number of Australians are travelling to developing countries for cosmetic procedures without seriously considering the potential dangers involved.

While there are many qualified and highly skilled plastic surgeons working overseas, Australian patients are often not able to receive adequate post operative care – a vital component of any medical procedure.

“An increasing number of Australians are travelling overseas for cosmetic procedures because it is cheaper to get work done in a developing country. A lot of people however don’t realise the risks involved – more and more Australians are returning home from medical tourism trips with complications that we need to correct,” says President of the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons, Dr Geoff Lyons.

Thailand, Malaysia and South America are common destinations for Australians seeking cosmetic work overseas, with some of the most popular procedures including breast surgery, facial surgery, abdomen revisions, body contouring and ear revisions.

Leading UK plastic surgeon and President of the British Association of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons Graeme Perks will address the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons’ Congress to discuss the implications of medical tourism, as part of a Global Summit featuring ten leading international plastic surgeons.

Graeme Perks will speak about the risks of medical tourism as well as a new set of best practice guidelines issued by the Royal College of Surgeons in the UK on April 24.

Mr Perks became a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in the UK in 1984 before moving to Melbourne where he worked a year in general surgery, before lecturing at the Monash University Department of Surgery with a research interest in transplant organ rejection.

What: The Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons’ Plastic Surgery Congress

Where: Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre, Southbank

When: 24 – 27 April

For any media enquires regarding the Congress, or to arrange an interview with Graeme Perks contact Edwina Gatenby on 0402 130 254 or Shannon Swainston on 0478 053 684.

Founded in 1970, the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons Inc (ASPS) is the peak body for Specialist Plastic Surgeons (both reconstructive and cosmetic). The Society’s main role is to protect the integrity of plastic surgery as a specialty.