PLASTIC AND RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY GRADUATE OUTCOMES

The Australian and New Zealand Plastic Surgery training programs aim to produce the highest quality Fellows who are capable of building on a tradition of skill and excellence in serving the community and the profession of surgery.

Plastic surgeons have a comprehensive knowledge of how tissues heal, the blood supply to the various tissues of the body, what constitutes a 'normal' appearance (and an enhanced one), and the mechanical forces at work in the body, as well as exceptional and finely-honed technical skills. A graduate of the Surgical Education and Training (SET) program will possess this knowledge and these skills as a defining element of being a Specialist Plastic Surgeon.

A graduate of the SET program in plastic and reconstructive surgery is the embodiment of a good doctor, with a constant focus on patient safety, a comprehensive knowledge and skill set regarding patient selection, preparation and aftercare, and an exceptional knowledge of surgical anatomy, aesthetics, and plastic surgery conditions and treatments.

Graduates who have completed the SET program have a recognisable and specific set of medical and technical skills as well as professional competencies identified as a RACS core competency.

Australian Society *of* Plastic Surgeons

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION *of* Plastic Surgeons
Te Kāhui Whakamōhou Kiri

PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES

GRADUATES WILL BE ABLE TO:

Communication

- Establish professional therapeutic relationships with patients and their families
- Elicit and synthesise accurate and relevant information, incorporating the perspectives of patients and their families
- Engage patients and their families in developing healthcare plans that reflect the patient's healthcare needs and goals.
- Document and share written and electronic information about a patient's care to optimise clinical decision-making, patient safety, confidentiality and privacy.

Collaboration and Teamwork

- Work effectively with other healthcare professionals
- Proactively work with colleagues to prevent misunderstandings, manage differences and resolve conflicts
- Effectively and safely handover care to an appropriate healthcare professional.

Leadership and Management

- Contribute to the improvement of healthcare delivery in healthcare teams, organisations and systems
- Allocate finite healthcare resources appropriately
- Demonstrate leadership in professional practice
- Manage personal practice and career.

Health Advocacy

- Respond to individual patient needs
- Respond to the needs of a community or population and advocate with them for system-level change.

Scholarship and Teaching

- Engage in ongoing learning
- Facilitate the learning of others through effective teaching
- Integrate best available evidence into real-time decision-making
- Critically evaluate the integrity, reliability, and applicability of research and literature related to plastic and reconstructive surgery
- Contribute to the dissemination and/or creation of knowledge and practices in plastic and reconstructive surgery.

Professionalism and Ethics

- Demonstrate a commitment to patients by applying best practices and adhering to high ethical standards
- Demonstrate a commitment to the profession and community through participation in profession-led regulation
- Demonstrate a commitment to health and wellbeing to foster optimal patient care.

Cultural Competence and Cultural Safety

- Promote cultural competence and cultural safety in order to achieve equitable healthcare for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and Māori
- Demonstrate a commitment to foster a safe and respectful healthcare environment for all patients, families and carers
- Promote an inclusive and safe workplace.

MEDICAL EXPERTISE, JUDGEMENT AND CLINICAL DECISION MAKING, AND TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

GRADUATES WILL BE ABLE TO:

Assess and treat a diverse range of patients (and their families) and conditions by applying best practice skills in diagnosis, assessment and surgical management, including thorough surgical planning, tissue handling and consideration of reconstructive and cosmetic techniques.

Apply flexible and individualised approaches to complex problems in order to achieve an outcome that respects both appearance (form) and function.

Diagnose, assess and manage patients presenting with:

- malignant and benign skin lesions
- soft tissue wounds, infections of soft tissue and bone, vascular anomalies and conditions affecting the skin
- burn injuries and their sequelae
- cosmetic concerns and requests for surgical and non-surgical cosmetic procedures including gender dysphoria/incongruence
- cleft lip and palate, craniosynostosis and other craniofacial syndromes
- head and neck cancer and its consequencess
- hand conditions including hand trauma, elective hand surgery and congenital upper limb conditions
- breast cancer and/or patients requiring breast reconstruction
- chest wall, trunk or perineum conditions, tumours, deformities or defects requiring advanced reconstructive techniques
- facial fractures and craniomaxillofacial trauma and other conditions
- lower limb trauma and pathology including amputation and complex reconstruction.

Recognise, assess and manage common conditions in children, such as prominent ears, benign skin conditions and hand trauma, and more complex conditions including cleft lip and palate and congenital hand differences.

Perform microsurgery, including revascularisation procedures, apply knowledge of a broad range of flaps and techniques, and demonstrate an ability to raise and inset flaps into various defects.

Recognise the special nature of cosmetic surgery, including the potential for harm as well as benefit, and the need to manage patients holistically.

Recognise the complexity of informed financial consent for cosmetic surgery in vulnerable communities, especially relating to complications or perceived unsatisfactory results and other craniofacial syndromes.