



anzsrs

Australian and New Zealand Society of Respiratory Science Ltd  
Leading Respiratory Science in Australasia

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## Regional Report 2015

### New Zealand

**Chair: Brooke Cantley**

**Vice Chair: Ron Blaza**

**ANZSRS representatives members on external committees (name, committee and organization):**

Kevin Ellyett and David Robiony-Rogers – New Zealand Clinical Physiologist Registration Board

New members: 8

**2015 Activity & Achievements:**

We currently have one member as part of the Board, Kevin Ellyett, who is now in the role of Chair of the Board. There are 52 New Zealand branch members, eight of which joined in 2015.

This year we were lucky enough to have Dr John Brannan from NSW as our guest speaker for our NZ branch meeting held in Queenstown. John gave two excellent talks on bronchial provocation challenges and assessment of airways disease for the ANZSRS and TSANZ members. Thanks again for making the trip over and presenting your research for us! Overall the annual NZ branch meeting was once again a great success receiving excellent feedback from most members.

In 2015 Ewan Morris performed an audit of respiratory testing around the country and the findings are summarized below:

- All respondents perform full PFT's and majority offer bronchodilator, CPET and some sort of provocation testing
- 40.5 FTE across the respondents, the average is 2.5 per lab (wide variation), the average per 100,000 population is 1.06
- At the time of the survey approximately 10% of all FTE was vacant
- All staff are employed under some sort of union agreement
- The majority of staff are educated to postgraduate level
- At the time there were 27 physiologists with CRFS, only 5 of which were not employed at a tertiary centre. 5 DHB's were performing full PFT's without a Certified scientist
- 7 DHB's offer either no formal training or only attend formal spirometry training/refreshers at a tertiary centre
- Training usually supervised by Senior physiologists who have either Masters/PhD, 8/11 trainers hold CRFS
- At the time 5 labs held accreditation with TSANZ

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- Average number of respiratory physicians in service was 5. 1-3 physicians = 9 DHBs, 4-7 = 5 DHBs, 8-10 = 3 DHBs. Average ratio of physiologists:physicians = 1:3

The Respiratory Laboratories around the country continue to put up interesting cases for Library Corner and Case of the Month. This has been shared around numerous laboratories so we had a range of input and we hope this will continue to the same level for this coming year.

**Awards:**

Best poster ANZSRS 2015 – Brooke Cantley

ASM grants:

Christine McLachlan ASM Grant – Emily Ingram

ASM grant – Michelle Curtis

CRFS: Kelly Searle, Verity Blakemore, Laura Ploen

**2016 Plans and Goals**

Our plans are already underway for the next Branch meeting to be held in August again in the beautiful Queenstown. This is to be held again in conjunction with the TSANZ meeting. We are in the process of lining up our topics and speakers for the ANZSRS session.

Using some of the information gathered in the audit last year we will look to apply to get Respiratory Physiologists back onto the skills shortages list for New Zealand with the hopes of gaining and retaining trained overseas staff where we have shortages.

Prepared by: Brooke Cantley

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