



RMSANZ

Rehabilitation Medicine Society of Australia and New Zealand

From the RMSANZ President

Dear/Tena koe Colleague,

Thanks for joining the Rehabilitation Medicine Society of Australia and New Zealand (RMSANZ) affectionately known as Ramsanz 😊

In joining, you have linked up with colleagues working in both the public and private sectors and you are part of a movement to promote your discipline to the people that need it – the Australian public. Not only do people living with disabilities benefit from your work but so do their carers and families, your colleagues in the acute medicine sphere and the Australian and New Zealand taxpayer.

RMSANZ exclusively represents you from an industrial perspective (to advocate for work conditions), is able to react to changes in the medical, political or social landscape rapidly, and can represent rehabilitation physicians, particularly. This means that when there are changes in government policies, laws or private hospital rules RMSANZ can speak specifically for you rather than all physicians, or all doctors or all people caring for those living with disabilities.

Our submissions regarding Healthcare funding in NSW, Long Covid and our successful challenge to nib/Honey suckle health in the Competition Tribunal to name a few are examples of our advocacy on your behalf.

Your Annual Scientific Meetings are organised by RMSANZ and your membership allows you to participate and contribute to the meeting as well as enjoying registration discounts, the networking, the social contacts and the alumni experiences (meeting those who trained at the same institutions).

You are also now also represented internationally, as part of the International Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (ISPRM) who membership you enjoy now as well as access to their journal JISPRM and their webinars on their websites. This year is particularly notable as we are hosting the ISPRM congress in Sydney 1-6 June, in Australia for the first time. With over 2000 attendees from all over the world including our region (Indonesia,



China, Korea, Malaysia and Japan) as well as all 5 continents, it will be a magnificent time to be a rehabilitation physician in Australia and New Zealand.

For those of you interested in getting involved it is not only great for the CME it does feel like a real contribution after your training and access to specialist entitlements. We have a range of special interest groups (sig) such as the private practice special interest group, the spasticity management sig, the neuro rehab sig, the orthotics and prosthetics sigs to name a few. We also have committees such as state committees, and committees of the board such as the communication committee, our finance committee, governance committee and our research committee.

For trainees and supervisors, membership to the RMSANZ allows you to offer feedback about issues independently from those who manage the training, assessment and curriculum. We have a memorandum of understanding with the AFRM and feedback to them in a confidential manner regularly regarding training issues and whether the program is preparing young physicians for the ever-changing medical landscape. Trainees also have access to discounts for any educational events that our sigs run including our webinars on preparation for practice.

Finally, the RMSANZ also produces position statements that you can download to assist if any administrators question your decisions; these include the Total Knee Replacement inpatient rehabilitation position statement and the disaster relief position statement. Now as a member, you have access to our board for inquiries and comments about issues that affect your work or your patients.

The RMSANZ is incorporated and adheres to all the legal requirements of the Corporations Act and has a dually constituted board of 10 of your colleagues and the services of an administration company, a legally qualified company secretary and a communications officer. So while we are a small company, we are professional, have an adequate infrastructure and pride ourselves on being responsive.

So welcome and we are now at your service!

King Regards/Nga mihi nui

Steven

Prof Steven Faux AM

President of the RMSANZ



What is RMSANZ?

RMSANZ is the professional body for rehabilitation physicians and trainees in Australia & New Zealand and offers a stimulating, supportive and collegial environment of professional development, continuing education, policy review and encouragement of teaching and research.

The objectives of RMSANZ are:

- *To promote and advance the study and practice of Rehabilitation Medicine*
 - *To foster the highest standards of training, practice, education, and research in the field of Rehabilitation Medicine and disability/activity limitation and related areas, including (without limitation) by instituting and conducting courses of study for the benefit of those desiring to increase and improve their knowledge of Rehabilitation Medicine*
 - *To provide forums for Members engaged in the practice of Rehabilitation Medicine and any of its special interests and related disciplines for the furtherance of standards of medical care and rehabilitation, including (without limitation) by conducting annual scientific meetings and through the establishment of Branches and SIGs*
 - *To nominate representatives, selected by the Directors, to the AFRM and RACP and any other relevant bodies for membership of the STCs or any other committees of those bodies as deemed appropriate by the Directors*
 - *To represent the views of Rehabilitation Physicians to other relevant bodies*
 - *To maintain ongoing liaison with Federal and State Governments of Australia, the New Zealand Government and other relevant bodies to promote the development of healthcare and disability/activity limitation programs for people with disability/activity limitation*
 - *To provide encouragement and support to Advanced Trainees during and after their period of training in Rehabilitation Medicine*
 - *To do all such other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects.*
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Benefits of Membership

Discount RMSANZ ASM and other educational registrations

The premier event of the RMSANZ Calendar is the Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM). This yearly meeting brings together the Australasian Rehabilitation Medicine community to share the most recent scientific developments. Australia's significant geography lends itself to constantly evolving models of care but not the opportunity to regularly network with our colleagues. The ASM is the yearly opportunity to catch up with your colleagues from Australia and New Zealand as well as hear the latest developments in the field. The RMSANZ Scientific Committee oversees the planning and content of the ASM ensuring high quality content across the workshops, plenaries, and concurrent sessions.

RMSANZ has six active Special Interest Groups (SIGs). These SIGs are active in many ways, hosting educational workshops and webinars, drafting papers, and supporting research. The SIGs are:

- Disaster Rehabilitation (since 2017)
- Neurorehabilitation (since 2017)
- Pain & MSK (since 2016)
- Private Practice (since 2017)
- Prosthetics & Orthotics (since 2018)
- Spasticity Management (since 2023)

Participation in SIG educational sessions and meetings is free for RMSANZ Members.

ISPRM Membership

Your RMSANZ Membership also gives you membership to the International Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine. The International Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (ISPRM) is the result of the merger and integration of the International Rehabilitation Medicine Association (IRMA) and the International Federation of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (IFPMR). With your ISPRM membership you are able to participate in a large-scale mission aimed to advance the specialty of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine in all parts of the world.

The International Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (ISPRM) serves as the global agency for Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (PRM). ISPRM aims to “continuously improve PRM practice and facilitate PRM input in international health organizations with the goal to contribute to optimal functioning and quality of life of people experiencing disability”. This includes influencing international policies, assisting national organisation to influence local governments, to provide means to facilitate research activities at the international level and to provide mechanisms to facilitate international exchange on all elements of rehabilitation.



ISPRM hosts the World Congress of the International Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine which is an opportunity for international practical workshops, plenary sessions and themed sessions, with members receiving discounted registrations. In addition to electronic access to the Journal of the International Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine, ISPRM membership also provides access to other international PMR journals including Rehab in Review.

Ensure you activate your individual membership to enjoy the benefits of:

- Entitled to vote in the Assembly of Individual Members
- Being eligible to be elected or appointed to any position in the President's Cabinet and Executive Committee
- Receiving and contributing to the ISPRM electronic monthly newsletter "News and Views"
- Having access to rich educational materials, professional forum and special-interest groups through the members-only sections of the ISPRM website including education papers, curriculums, competencies and educational videos.

Further Questions?

The breadth of resources and opportunities can't be captured here. For all questions please contact the *RMSANZ Association Manager* using the email address rmsanz15@gmail.com

Getting involved with RMSANZ

Special Interest Groups

As a RMSANZ member, you have the opportunity to join our Special Interest Groups (SIGs). These groups are dedicated to advancing specific areas of knowledge, learning, or technology within our field. Since 2015, we've established six SIGs, each offering a platform for members to communicate, meet, and organize events to share expertise. All RMSANZ members are eligible to join SIGs. To get involved, simply send an expression of interest to the RMSANZ Officer (admin@rmsanz.net), listing the SIG(s) you'd like to join. We look forward to your participation and contributions!

Disaster Rehabilitation

Established by RMSANZ Board Resolution in August, 2017. The purpose of the group is to support emergency disaster rehabilitation response and provide resources (human and technical) for optimizing the health, functioning and quality of life of persons who sustain injuries or impairments due to a large-scale disaster. The first meeting of members took place in Canberra, ACT in September 2017.

The RMSANZ's Disaster Rehabilitation Special Interest Group has developed Minimum Technical Standards and Recommendations for Traumatic Brain Injury in Disaster Settings, approved by the RMSANZ Board on 12 February 2018.



Neurorehabilitation

Established by RMSANZ Board Resolution in July 2017. The motivation for the creation of this group is to re-activate collegiate interest amongst medical practitioners working in neurorehabilitation related areas and to greater flexibility to organise educational meetings, CME events & workshops in this and related areas.

Pain & MSK

Established by RMSANZ Board Resolution in November 2016. The motivation for the creation of this group is to enable society members to pursue their interests in pain management, musculoskeletal medicine, interventional techniques, orthopaedic rehabilitation and occupational rehabilitation. The group is intended to serve as an effective means of engaging in clinical meetings and to allow effective advocacy in the above areas of interest.

Private Practice

Established by RMSANZ Board Resolution in January 2016. This group was formed by Rehabilitation Physicians working in the private sector with one of its major objective being to advocate for improved patient outcomes in the private health sector.

Prosthetics & Orthotics

Established by RMSANZ Board Resolution in February 2018. The motivation for the creation of this group is to enable Society members to pursue their interests in amputee rehabilitation, prosthetics and orthotics. The group is intended to serve as an effective means of engaging in clinical meetings and to allow effective advocacy in the above areas of interest.

Spasticity Management

Established by RMSANZ Board Resolution in June 2023. The motivation for the creation of this group is to enable Society members to pursue their interests in spasticity management. The group is intended to serve as an effective means of promoting engagement in clinical meetings and research and to allow effective education and advocacy in the provision of management of spasticity and it's impact.

For further information on SIGs please follow this [link](#)



Branches

As a financial member residing in a particular State or Territory of Australia or New Zealand, you're automatically considered a member of the RMSANZ Branch established for that area. Currently, there are five established branches:

- New South Wales / Australian Capital Territory
- Queensland
- South Australia / Northern Territory
- Victoria / Tasmania
- Aotearoa New Zealand

The key functions of RMSANZ Branches include:

- Providing advice to the Advisory Council regarding Rehabilitation Medicine related issues within the region.
- Developing and delivering local educational activities and resources tailored to the needs of Rehabilitation Physicians, trainees, and other rehabilitation team members.
- Supporting RMSANZ Members by facilitating discussion forums on topics of mutual interest.
- Offering advice to the RMSANZ Board to aid in the development of responses to inquiries or position statements that reflect the views of Rehabilitation Physicians in the region as necessary.

Looking for a Job?

Discover job opportunities on our regularly updated RMSANZ Jobs Board! Whether you're searching for your next role or have a position to fill, our board is here to help. To post a job opportunity, just send a message to admin@rmsanz.net. Explore the latest openings and advance your career in Rehabilitation Medicine [here!](#)

Joining the RMSANZ Team

If you're interested in becoming more involved with RMSANZ, consider joining one of our committees! These committees are often recruiting new members who are passionate about advancing our field. To express your interest in joining a committee, you can message admin@rmsanz.net or keep an eye out for announcements in our monthly email newsletter.

Social Media

Keep connected and up to date with us via the following links:

[Facebook Page](#)

[Facebook Group](#)

