



The Australasian College of Cosmetic Surgery

Raising Standards, Protecting Patients

MEDIA RELEASE

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Cosmetic medical practice comes of age at COSMETEX16

More than 400 Leading cosmetic medical and surgical practitioners, manufacturers, suppliers and regulators have gathered at The Hilton, Sydney for the start of COSMETEX16. Hosted by the Australasian College of Cosmetic Surgery, the annual conference runs from Thursday 12 to Saturday 14 May 2016.

College president Dr Ron Bezic said the annual meeting is unique forum in the A\$1 billion growing specialty area of cosmetic medical practice. "Cosmetex is the only truly inclusive conference for anyone working in cosmetic medicine or surgery. From its foundation cosmetic medical practice has been multidisciplinary. Its great innovations have come from many different fields of medicine, and Cosmetex reflects that reality."

"Whether you're a cosmetic, maxillofacial or plastic surgeon, an ophthalmologist, a dermatologist, or one of many other specialists or a cosmetic nurse, Cosmetex is the event to share clinical experience, insights, research, new techniques and innovations that will benefit patients," Dr Bezic said.

"Although the market for cosmetic treatments and procedures is far from mature, the specialty itself has really come of age. Cosmetic medical practice continues to grow significantly and become more defined with each passing year. But with that growth comes a responsibility to ensure that standards are continually improved," Dr Bezic said.

"Our Fellows are also seeing an increasing number of Millennials seeking treatments, and they bring different expectations than the boomers who preceded them. Practitioners will need to keep pace with innovation and technology, be responsive and be responsible," Dr Bezic said.

"We are particularly pleased that Cosmetex continues to be a key venue for policymakers and regulators, who the College sees as partners in improving standards and patient safety. This year, a number of important new regulatory initiatives are being presented at Cosmetex," Dr Bezic said.

Dr Bezic highlighted the presentation by the Medical Board of Australia's Associate Professor Stephen Bradshaw on the Medical Board's just-released cosmetic surgery guidelines, to which the College contributed and welcomed.

The NSW Health Care Complaints Commission head Tony Kofkin, also outlined the important role of the HCCC in yesterday's opening plenary session. Dr John Javorniczky, from the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA), will provide a much-anticipated update on Laser and IPL safety regulation in a key session highlighted today.

Continues



“The College benefits from key learnings from peers overseas – for example, from the Netherlands a complications registry developed by Dr Jani van Loghem may provide a model for a similar College initiative in Australia. And Dr James Fouché will present research and clinical experience on the phenomena of pain perception between the left and right side of the body and how that may be used to reduce patient discomfort during wrinkle reduction injection treatments,” Dr Bezic noted.

“These and many other presentations demonstrate why Cosmetex has become one of the world’s most significant meetings for cosmetic medicine and surgery,” Dr Bezic concluded.

Program highlights

- **Can we prevent skin ageing?** Dr Ashraf Badawi, Vice President, European Society of Laser Dermatology, Egypt
- **Advances in ablative and non-ablative fractional resurfacing**, Dr Christine Dierickx, Belgium
- **Re-evaluation and definition of mid face sculpting**, Dr Kate Goldie, UK
- **International interactive face panel**, Dr Kate Goldie (UK), Dr Patrick Tansley (AUS), Dr Jani van Looghem (Netherlands), Dr Christine Dierickx (Belgium), Dr Raj Aquilla (UK)
- **Beauty across the ages**, Dr Raj Aquilla, UK
- **Advanced knowledge in tattoo**, pigmentation and vascular treatments, Dr Tahl Humes, USA
- **Lifting, rejuvenating, filling and restoring the lower face**, Dr Mary Dingley, AUS
- **It’s a marriage, not a one night stand**, Grazina Fechner, AUS
- **The laser “Brains Trust”**, Ms Kate Gillman, Head of the Medico Legal Advisory Service

Download the [Cosmetex16](https://www2.iceaustralia.com/ei/images/COSMETEX16/Cosmetex16_Program.pdf) program:

https://www2.iceaustralia.com/ei/images/COSMETEX16/Cosmetex16_Program.pdf

Fast Cosmetic Facts

- Total annual expenditure on cosmetic surgical and medical and related procedures and treatments in Australia is estimated to be \$1 billion.
- Australians annually consume more than \$350 million worth of wrinkle reduction procedures with botulinum toxin.

Top five cosmetic procedures in Australia:

- Anti-wrinkle injections
- Fillers
- Laser and IPL
- Breast augmentation and reduction
- Liposuction

What is the ACCS Code of Practice?

The Code of Practice, which was authorised by the ACCC in June 2009, provides patients with greater protection than that found in regulation or other guidelines.

The Code of Practice covers advertising and other promotional conduct, informed consent guidelines, monitoring of the code and an extensive governance regime.



As part of its Code of Practice, the ACCS has also produced a patient information brochure, “Things you should know”. The brochure provides information about choosing a doctor and questions to ask before deciding to have cosmetic surgery. The Code of Practice and patient information brochure are available from the College’s website www.accs.org.au

When choosing a cosmetic physician or surgeon, look for the College logo or the Code of Practice Seal which indicates that doctor agrees to be bound by the College’s strict Code of Practice.



Your assurance of a high standard

ENDS

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About the Australasian College of Cosmetic Surgery

Established in 1999, the ACCS is a not-for-profit, multi-disciplinary fellowship-based college of general surgeons, cosmetic surgeons, plastic surgeons, maxillofacial surgeons, cosmetic physicians, dermatologists, ear nose and throat surgeons, ophthalmologists, general practitioners and other doctors who practice in cosmetic medicine and surgery. The College also admits nurses as affiliate members.

The primary goal of the ACCS is to ensure the safe provision of cosmetic medicine and cosmetic surgical procedures to the Australian community through the supply of appropriately trained and certified health care practitioners.

The ACCS is the only medical college which provides education and training leading to fellowship specifically in cosmetic medicine and surgery. Fellows of the College are medical doctors who have completed post-graduate education and training and have demonstrated competency specifically in cosmetic medicine and surgery. To become an ACCS Fellow, doctors must typically complete a minimum 12 years medical and/or surgical education and training.

For additional information about the ACCS, please visit: www.accs.org.au