



Royal Australasian College of Surgeons
Victorian Audit of Surgical Mortality

Reporting data to the Victorian Audit of Surgical Mortality

VASM Webinar Series
Wednesday, 27 July 2022, from 10.30am

The aim of VASM's webinar series is to continue engagement with the health services and clinicians. A hospital forum meeting will be held straight after the event for health service representatives.

Time	Presentation
10.30am – 10.35am	Acknowledge Country & Open Webinar Session A/Prof Philip McCahy, Clinical Director, VASM
10.35am – 11.05am	Reporting data to VASM by a health service Dr Bibhusal Thapa, Matthew Soo and Christine Polmear, Northern Health
11.05am – 11.30am	Close webinar session and start hospital forum meeting

Fellows who attended this activity qualified for 1 Point in Educational Activities of RACS CPD Program.

Chair Profile

A/Prof Philip McCahy, FRACS, Clinical Director, VASM



Associate Professor Philip McCahy is the Clinical Director of VASM. He is a benign urologist at Monash Health and in Gippsland. He happily talks anytime about stones and VASM and runs a popular undergraduate surgery tutorial program for Monash University. Prior to moving to Australia in 2007, he was a consultant urologist in Kent, UK and on the Court of Examiners for the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

He has also been heavily involved in teaching trainees and medical students around the world. He has taught trainees and students in the UK, has worked in Tanzania as part of the Urolink arm of the British Association of Urological Surgeons, is the urology advisor to RACS Global Health and leads a regular trip to Tonga as part of RACS Pacific Islands Project.

Speaker Profiles

Dr Bibhusal Thapa, FRACS and Surgical Quality Committee Member, Northern Health

Dr Bibhusal Thapa is a Thoracic surgeon and a member of the surgical quality team of the Surgical Division of Northern Health since August 2020. Dr Thapa completed his undergraduate study, post-graduate training in general surgery in Nepal and then specialty training in Thoracic surgery. In 2010, Dr Thapa received the Rowan Nicks Scholarship which allowed him to undertake fellowship training in Thoracic Surgery in Melbourne. Subsequently, Dr Thapa undertook and completed a PhD studying Mesothelioma through Melbourne University. Dr Thapa gathered extensive experiences working both in Nepal and Australia and continues to have keen interest in clinical research, surgical education and surgical quality improvement.

Matthew Soo, Former Director of Risk Management Quality, Safety and Transformation, Northern Health

Matthew Soo was the Director of Risk Management at Northern Health before joining The Royal Melbourne Hospital in June 2022. Matthew led the transformation of clinical and business risk management at Northern Health that was awarded 'Met with Merit' in two National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards accreditations. Matthew has 15 years' experience as an audit, quality and risk advisor and he is the chair of the Victorian Healthcare Risk Managers Community of Practice. As a risk manager he is interested in digitising quality and safety systems to improve workforce engagement and ultimately patient experience.

Christine Polmear, Audit and Performance Manager & Acting Director of Risk Management Quality, Safety and Transformation, Northern Health

Christine Polmear has a clinical background in intensive care and surgical physiotherapy. She completed a Master of Health Services Management. She worked at several health services in Melbourne; as a clinician and in quality, safety and risk and management over the last 15 years. She is passionate about evidence-based practice and implementing systems and processes to support clinicians to monitor and improve quality of care.

Registration and Survey Results

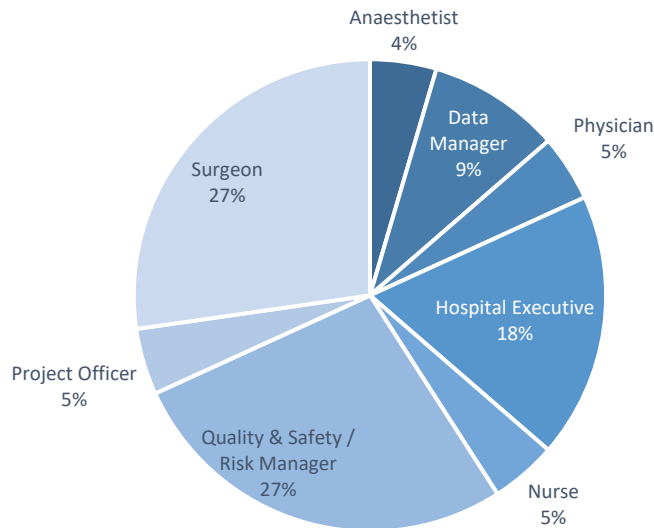
Registration

- 72 surgical and health service stakeholders registered
- 70% (51/72) delegates attended the webinar
- 29% (15/51) delegates were surgical clinicians
- 71% (36/51) delegates were health service stakeholders

Survey

- 43% (22/51) respondents completed the survey as shown in Figure 1.

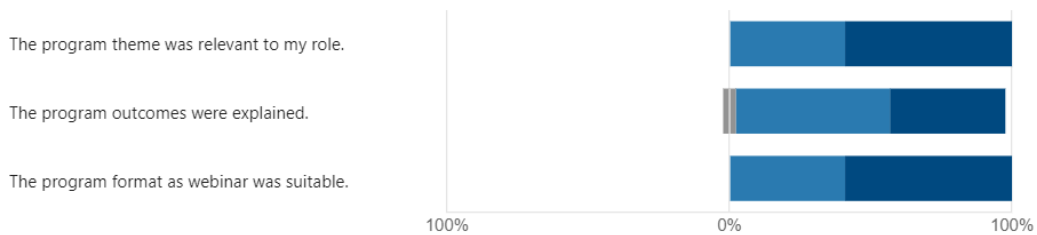
Figure 1: Job title of delegates



2. About the program:

[More Details](#)

■ Strongly Disagree
 ■ Disagree
 ■ Neutral
 ■ Agree
 ■ Strongly Agree

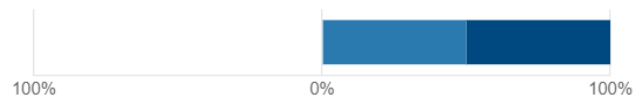


3. About the chair:

[More Details](#)

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree

The chair encouraged participation and discussions.



4. About the presentations:

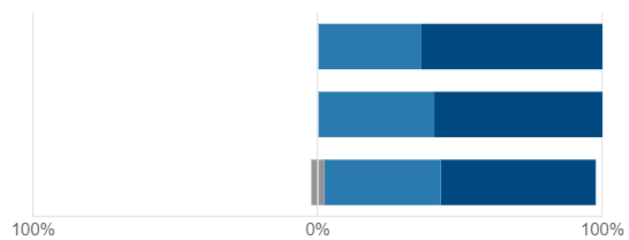
[More Details](#)

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree

Presentation by Dr Bibhusal Thapa

Presentation by Matthew Soo

Presentation by Christine Polmear

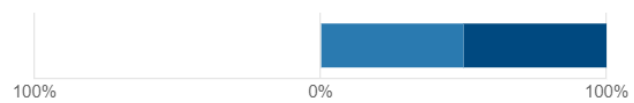


5. About the summary and conclusion:

[More Details](#)

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree

It was well paced and suited to the group.



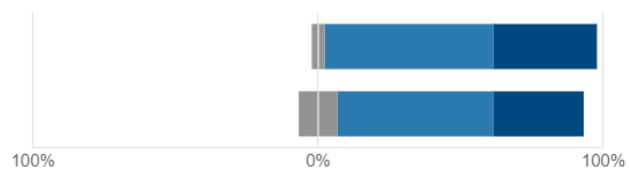
6. About your learning outcomes:

[More Details](#)

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree

I have gained valuable knowledge and skills from this program.

I can apply the skills and knowledge from this program in my role.



Feedback

Below are comments from the delegates who found the work Northern Health and VASM has done. The webinar was intended to provide other health services an idea of what was reported and how it can trigger an internal audit activity in their hospital as well.

Job title	Comments
Anaesthetist	<i>This is a great stage in the evolution of complex processes. RACS is to be congratulated.</i>
Data Manager	<i>I find these useful and gives context for what we do and why we do it.</i>
Data Manager	<i>Thank you for the webinar and meeting after, very informative</i>
Hospital Executive	<i>Format works but personal connection missing so looking forward to face to face.</i>
Hospital Executive	<i>Good meeting</i>
Project Officer	<i>Great presentation and interaction between the panellists and the participants logged on. Thanks VASM.</i>
Quality & Safety Manager	<i>Thanks for a very informative session</i>
Quality & Safety Manager	<i>Thank you for this this very important audit</i>
Surgeon	<i>Great to see not only the finished product but also the path of development - it is that which other hospitals can copy to produce an audit of their own!</i>
Surgeon	<i>Great to see not just the audit but also the validations and reviews. Perhaps the methods of developing the audit can be applied by other hospitals to make a more efficient programme.</i>
Surgeon	<i>Thanks to Northern and VASM for this session. It is a good evolution that they are leading. I appreciate that VASM's core business is about mortality but have the Northern team applied some of their methodology to significant morbidities &/or near misses? Are their slides available please? Thanks again.</i>
Surgeon	<i>Interesting, informative and innovative.</i>
Surgeon	<i>Very helpful webinar.</i>
Surgeon	<i>As a first and second assessor for the VASM programme I found it interesting to glean what others considered important in auditing surgical deaths. This programme looks to choose the deaths that we need to spend time on to ensure improvement in surgical practice.</i>