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# *MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING*

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*between*

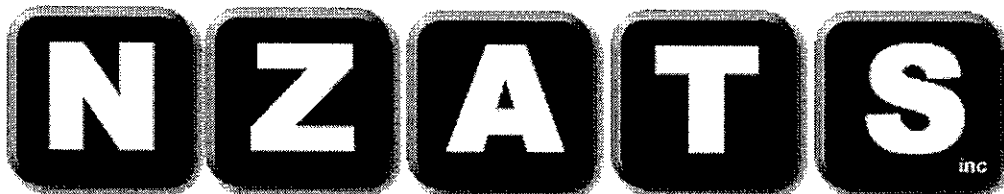
*New Zealand Society of Anaesthetists (NZSA)*



**New Zealand Society of Anaesthetists**  
(Incorporated)

*and*

*New Zealand Anaesthetic Technicians Society (NZATS)*



**New Zealand Anaesthetic Technicians' Society Inc**

## **Memorandum of Understanding Between New Zealand Society of Anaesthetists and New Zealand Anaesthetic Technicians Society**

1. The NZSA and NZATS wish to cement their existing collaborative working relationship through a memorandum of understanding.
2. This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) sets out how this relationship will be established and operated.

### **OBJECTS**

3. The objects of the relationship are to:
  - 3.1 promote/develop aspects of continuing anaesthesia education and training in NZ
  - 3.2 foster an environment where the development of anaesthesia and anaesthesia technology in NZ works hand in hand
  - 3.3 foster and further develop the anaesthesia team working relationships in NZ
  - 3.4 recognise the important and separate role that qualified and trained anaesthetic technicians play in delivering anaesthesia services
  - 3.5 recognise the important and separate role that specialist anaesthetists provide in delivering anaesthesia services.

### **PRINCIPLES**

4. The following shared principles will underpin the implementation of this MOU:
  - 4.1 remain independent and autonomous bodies
  - 4.2 each Society's principle duty is to its respective memberships
  - 4.3 information about anaesthesia should aim to promote it in the best possible light while ensuring fairness and accuracy in reporting
    - 4.3.1 as such each body is responsible for its own communications and media plan but may consult on matters of common interest and in the interests of accurate reporting

- 4.3.2 the two bodies may in the interests of the wider anaesthesia community or in the public interest; from time to time issue joint information or co-operative statements to facilitate fairness and consistency in subject reporting
- 4.4 Anaesthesia is recognized as a medical based specialty
- 4.5 Anaesthesia assistance is a specialised role practised by trained, qualified and registered health practitioners.

## **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARTNERS**

- 5. To give effect to the above objectives and principles, the responsibilities of **the parties** under this MOU are to:
  - 5.1 develop and implement a consultative policy advice process where appropriate
  - 5.2 open and honest communications between the parties will be a sign of good faith in the relationship.

## **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RELATIONSHIP**

- 7. The relationship will develop through formal and informal processes.
  - 7.1 Representatives of the NZSA and the NZATS will meet twice a year to plan and co-ordinate activities and matters of mutual interest. Where possible, co-ordination of AGMs will be agreed upon, and opportunities will be made available to house each bodies' annual scientific meeting.
  - 7.2 An NZSA member will continue to form a part of the NZATS Executive Committee structure.
    - 7.2 (a). A standing agenda item will be created in the NZSA agenda for a report to be tabled from the NZATS President, (approximately four times per year).
  - 7.3 The parties will agree to share information of benefit to both parties including sharing of submissions on matters that directly affect the wider NZ anaesthetic community.

- 7.4 Joint media statements will be issued where appropriate (see 4.3.2 above).
- 7.5 Opportunities for comment in each organisations' newsletters, *NZ Anaesthesia* and the NZATS Newsletter *via* invited guest columns/letters/advertisements as applicable. Invitations to speak at ASMs or AGMs as appropriate.
- 7.6 A formal consultative relationship to be established inviting comment from a medical perspective on the training and content of anaesthetic technician training. NZATS will inform NZSA on changes to course structure and content at an early stage. Opportunity to comment does not imply an expectation of amendment or implementation.
- 7.7 The Societies may wish to co-operate around formal nominations to the Minister of Health for appointments to the Regulatory Authority for Anaesthetic Technicians including for example, lobbying approaches to Government and other interested parties.
- 7.8 The NZSA will continue to award annually a prize for the Most Outstanding Student in the Diploma in Anaesthetic Technology Applied Science, the amount of which is reviewed biannually.
- 7.9 The NZSA may provide administrative support to NZATS.
- 7.9.1 Contractual and fiscal arrangements may be entered into to facilitate this administrative arrangement acknowledging the increasing workload requirements of both parties as they move to deliver more professional services and advice.

### **Exclusions**

Nothing in this relationship shall limit the financial or other interests of either party. There is no financial interdependence suggested in this MOU.

Either party may enter into any other third party arrangement so long as such an arrangement does not undermine or limit this MOU.

### **TERM AND REVIEW OF MOU**

8. The MOU will commence on the date that it is signed by the parties.
9. The NZSA and the NZATS will jointly undertake an initial review of the operation of the relationship after no later than twelve months or at the next AGMs of the two parties.

**GENERAL**

10. Nothing in this MOU shall limit the NZSA's or NZATS's capability to provide independent services or advice to members, Government or other agencies on any matter, including matters that are the subject of this MOU.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have executed this Memorandum of Understanding as at the 6<sup>th</sup> day of November 2009.**

**SIGNED for and on behalf of the  
New Zealand Society of Anaesthetists Inc.  
by the President**



**in the presence of:**



**SIGNED for and on behalf of the  
New Zealand Anaesthetic Technicians Society Inc.  
by the Chairman**



**in the presence of:**

