# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

New Zealand Society of Anaesthetists (NZSA)



New Zealand Society of Anaesthetists (Incorporated)

and

New Zealand Anaesthetic Technicians Society (NZATS)



# 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 and 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 including that of Anaesthetic Technician trainees
  - 3.4 recognise the important and separate role that registered Anaesthetic Technicians play in delivering anaesthesia services
  - 3.5 recognise the important and separate role that Anaesthetists provide in delivering anaesthesia services

# **PRINCIPLES**

- 4. The following shared principles will underpin the implementation of this MOU:
  - 4.1 NZATS and NZSA 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 interest of accurate reporting

- 4.3.2 the two bodies may in the interest 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 Anesthesia is recognised as a medical based specialty
- 4.5 Anaesthesia assistance is a specialised role practised by registered Anaesthetic Technicians.

#### 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 collaborative policy advice process where appropriate
  - open and honest communication between the parties as a sign of good faith in the relationship;
  - 5.3 develop and implement a collaborative information and public communication process where appropriate.

### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RELATIONSHIP

- 6. The relationship will develop through formal and informal processes.
  - 6.1 Representatives of the NZSA and the NZATS will meet formally three times each year to plan and co-ordinate activities and matters of mutual interest. In addition, co-ordination of AGMs will be agreed upon, and opportunities will be made available to house each bodies' annual scientific meetings.
    - 6.1.1 Representatives of both Societies will seek to hold a joint professional meeting with the Medical Sciences Council at least once a year (or more if indicated) to discuss matters of common interest around supervision, scopes of practice and training.
  - 6.2 An NZSA member will continue to form a part of the NZATS Executive Committee structure.

- 6.2.1 A standing agenda item be created in the NZSA agenda for a report to be tabled on NZATS matters including a report back from the NZATS Executive Committee meetings.
- 6.3 The parties will agree to share information of benefit to both parties including sharing submissions on matters that directly affect the wider NZ anaesthetic community.
  - 6.3.1 Joint media statements will be issued where appropriate (see 4.3.2 above).
- 6.4 Opportunities for comment in each organisations' newsletters, NZ Anaesthesia and NZATS Newsletter and invited guest column/letters/advertisements as applicable. Invitations to speak at ASMs or AGMs as appropriate.
- 6.5 The NZSA will continue to award a prize for the Most Outstanding Student in the Diploma in Anaesthetic Technology Applied Science, the amount to be reviewed biannually.
- 6.6 Contractual and fiscal arrangements may be entered into to facilitate administration.

#### **Exclusions**

Nothing in this relationship shall limit the financial or other interests of either party.

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

- 7. The MOU will commence on the date that it is signed by the parties.
- 8. The NZSA and the NZATS will jointly undertake a review of the operation of the relationship after 12 months.

# **GENERAL**

9. 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 15<sup>th</sup> day of February 2013.

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

in the presence of: MAFCathaston

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

in the presence of:

forth-Guero.