JGES International

Luncheon Seminar 5

How to Achieve Global Career Development

WHAT BROUGHT ME TO endoscopy practice in Asia-Pacific

Building a Global Career in Endoscopy

Lessons from Japan, Canada, and Australia

Austin HEALTH

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Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Austin Health,
University of Melbourne

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

Japan Gastroenterological Endoscopy Society

COI Disclosure

In connection with this presentation,
there is no COI to be disclosed with any companies.

My Career Journey Across Borders



2009
Shinshu University



2009–2015
St. Luke's International Hospital



2015–2017
St. Michael's Hospital
University of Toronto



2017–2024
Showa Medical University



2024–Present
Austin Health

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A Global Career Is Built Step by Step

Each move added a different dimension to my work

01 | **JAPAN**
Build Strong Foundations and Deep Expertise

02 | **CANADA**
Develop a Global Perspective

03 | **AUSTRALIA**
Build Programs and Systems

04 | **ASIA-PACIFIC**
Build Networks and Collaborations



My journey is still taking shape.
I am still learning, adapting, and growing.

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Why Pursue a Global Career?

Broaden how you think

Experience different cultures, values, and healthcare systems.

Expand how you contribute

Develop clinical, academic, and communication capabilities.

Step beyond your comfort zone

Build adaptability, resilience, and independence.

Create new possibilities

Build relationships and open future career pathways.

The value of a global career is personal

- defined by what you hope to learn, experience, and become

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What Japanese Endoscopy Taught Me

Endoscopy training in Japan shaped my clinical foundation and taught me that excellence extends beyond technique.

1

The importance of collaboration

2

The value of mentorship

3

Training the next generation

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What Japanese Endoscopy Taught Me

Collaborative culture







- Worked closely with many colleagues
- Shared the joy of therapeutic endoscopy as a team
- Exchanged ideas and discussed challenging cases together
- Grew and improved through collaboration

This collaborative culture is a key strength of Japanese endoscopy

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What Japanese Endoscopy Taught Me

Strong Mentorship





- Opportunities to contribute to academic initiatives under strong mentorship
- Exposure to international live endoscopy
- Lifelong friendships and global professional networks

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What Japanese Endoscopy Taught Me

Opportunities to Teach - Trained to Become a Trainer







Sharing Japanese endoscopic techniques worldwide

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What Japanese Endoscopy Taught Me

In Japan, mentorship is not a single relationship

it is a culture of learning

Layered mentorship	Senior and junior colleagues learn through overlapping layers of guidance, observation, and responsibility. = “Yanegawara”
The Path to Mastery	Learn the form. Break from the form. Develop your own style.
Collective mentorship	Departments, institutions, and professional societies collectively nurture the next generation.

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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO





St. Michael's
Inspired Care.
Inspiring Science.



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What My Experience in Canada Taught Me



Mount Sinai

IBD



Princess Margaret

Cancer Centre



Sunnybrook

GI Oncology



University of Toronto



Toronto General

Transplantation



SickKids

Paediatric GI



St. Michael's

Therapeutic Endoscopy



Toronto Western

Motility Disorders

What Canada Taught Me

A broader perspective, beyond technique

EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE

- Integrating research into everyday clinical decisions
- Evaluating outcomes beyond technical success

MULTIDISCIPLINARY THINKING

- Learning through discussion across specialties
- Seeing the patient beyond a single procedure

HIGH-VOLUME EXPERIENCE

- Managing complex cases with diverse pathology
- Building judgement through repeated exposure

GLOBAL COLLABORATION

- Adapting across cultures and healthcare systems
- Creating international networks for learning

Toronto expanded not only what I could do, but how I think, decide, and collaborate

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What Canada Taught Me

“Before being a great doctor, be a great father.”
— Professor Norman Marcon







Some of the most important lessons extended beyond medicine

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What Brought Me to Asia-Pacific (Australia)

A new environment, a wider ambition.

At the age of 40, I chose to **step beyond my comfort zone** not to leave behind what Japan and Canada had taught me, but to test, adapt, and build on it in a new environment.

- **Standardise ESD Practice** — To help build consistent ESD practice across Australia and, ultimately, the Asia-Pacific region
- **Expand Third-Space Endoscopy** — Build a comprehensive and sustainable third-space endoscopy program
- **Advance Therapeutic Innovation** — Introduce and evaluate emerging endoscopic therapies
- **Broaden My Perspective** — Learn from a different healthcare system, culture, and disease spectrum
- **Build Global Bridges** — Connect clinicians across Japan, Australia, and the wider region

What Brought Me to Asia-Pacific (Australia)

Third-Space Endoscopy



2008 / 10
Prof Inoue reports first-in-human POEM for achalasia (Japan)

2010s
Rapid worldwide uptake as first-line achalasia therapy

2020s
Indications expand: Z-POEM, G-POEM, more

Today
Formal ESGE/ASGE/SAGES curricula and guidelines

The Central Question Has Shifted

"Can we do it?"

Feasibility era

"Can we deliver it well everywhere?"

Global delivery era

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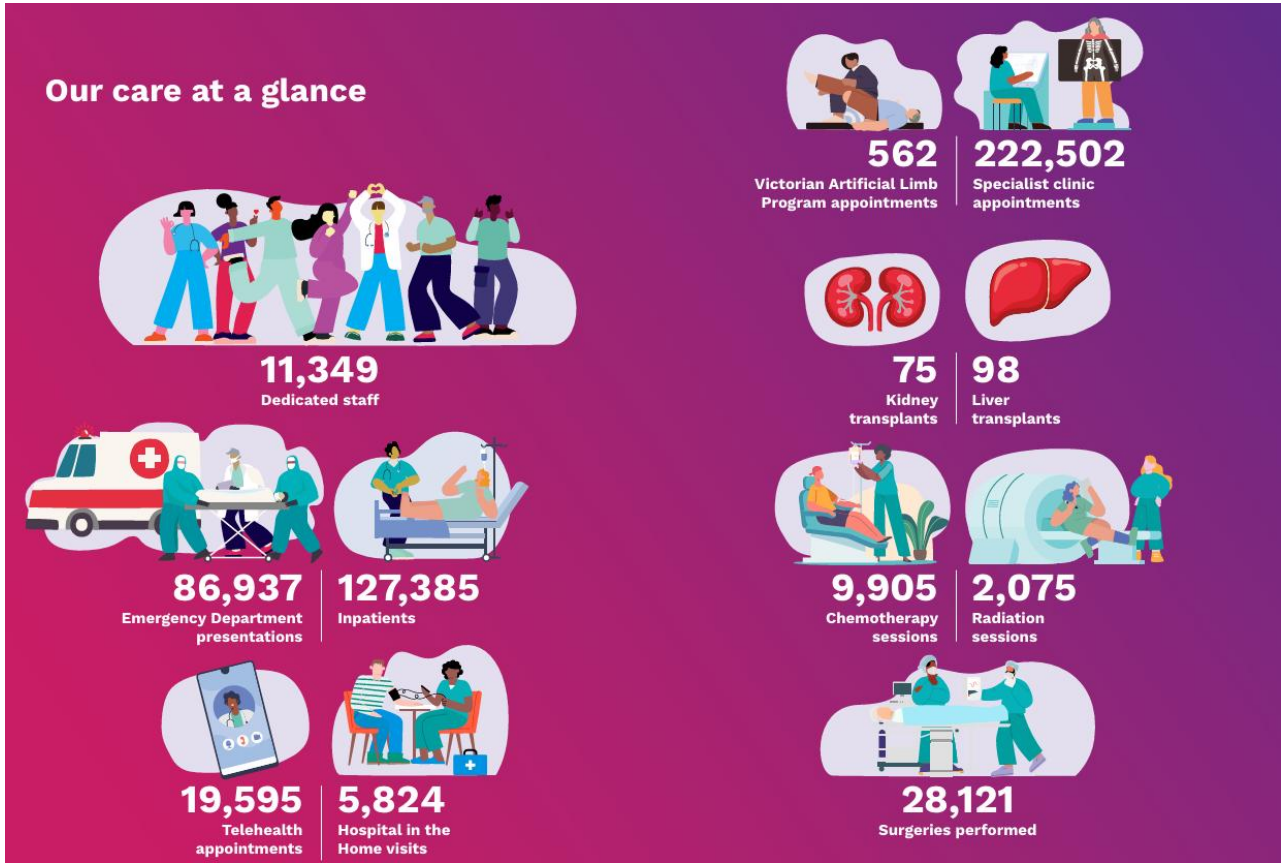


A New Clinical Environment: Austin Health

- Major tertiary referral centre in Melbourne
- Victoria's statewide liver transplant service
- University of Melbourne-affiliated teaching hospital

What Brought Me to Asia-Pacific (Australia)

Building Through Adaptation, Not Replication

- What brought me to Australia was the opportunity not merely to join an established program, **but to help build one.**
- The real challenge went beyond transferring technical skills; it was about **translating and adapting them** to a different clinical environment.
- The core principles, **quality, precision, and safety** remain constant, while workflows, communication, and patient expectations must be adapted to the local context.

Building a third-space endoscopy program





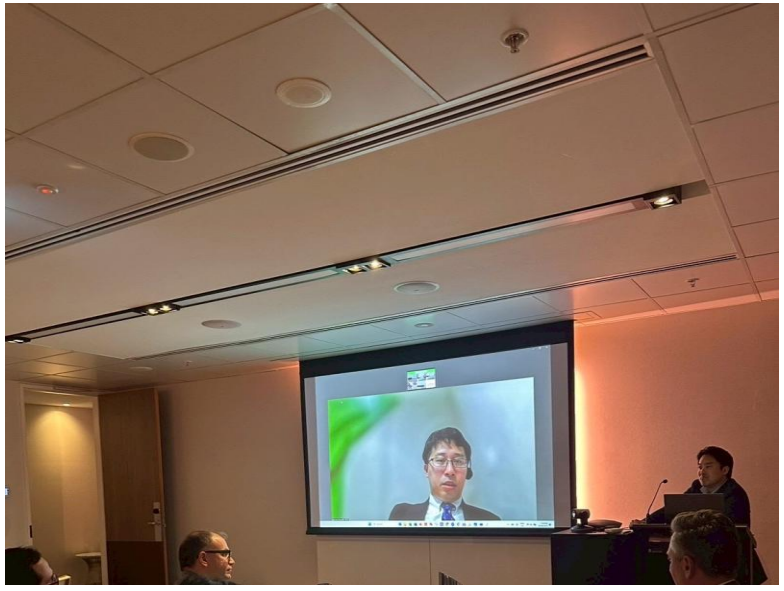
ESD Educational Sessions











Lectures and case discussion

- Upper GI ESD
- Lower GI ESD
- Defect closure
- Lectures and case discussion
- Live demonstration from Japan

ESD Educational Sessions

OLYMPUS **CONTINUUM**

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Course Faculty



Host

Dr Joshua Butt
Forum Director
Interventional Endoscopist,
The Northern Hospital,
Victoria



Moderator

Dr Bronte Holt
Interventional Endoscopist,
St Vincent's Hospital,
Victoria



Moderator

Dr Yuto Shimamura
Interventional Endoscopist,
Austin Health Victoria



Guest Speaker

Dr Akira Teramoto
Department of
Gastroenterology and
Hepatology Flinders
Medical Centre

Dr. Teramoto is an interventional endoscopist at Flinders Medical Centre. Japan-trained and now practising in Australia, Dr. Teramoto is a pioneer in advanced endoscopic imaging and minimally invasive resection techniques, including ESD. His expertise spans GI screening, luminal endoscopy, ERCP, and GI oncology, with a focus on precision diagnosis and early gastrointestinal neoplasia treatment.



Guest Speaker

Dr Mayo Tanabe
Digestive Diseases Center
Showa Medical University
Koto Toyosu Hospital

Inaugural ESD Exchange Forum - Upper GI ESD

Hosted by Forum Director Dr Joshua Butt

Upper GI ESD forum proudly sponsored by CR Kennedy

An educational exchange series to further education and optimise outcomes in ESD

Date: Thursday, 28th August 2025

Time: 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Venue: Monash Room – Sheraton Melbourne Hotel – 27 Little Collins Street, Melbourne

Dinner included

Featuring International Guest Speakers



Professor Tadateru Maehata

Department of Gastroenterology

St. Marianna University School of Medicine (Kawasaki, Japan)

Gastroenterologist and expert in endoscopic diagnosis and treatment of GI cancers. Formerly at Keio University, with a focus on minimally invasive therapies and endoscopic device innovation.



Dr. Yohei Minato

Department of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy

NTT Medical Center (Tokyo, Japan)

Interventional endoscopist specializing in ESD. With over 1,000 ESD procedures performed annually, his center is a leader in advanced endoscopic techniques. Deeply involved in international education, training nearly 80 overseas fellows each year in advanced endoscopic procedures.

C.R.Kennedy FUJIFILM

Boston Scientific
Advancing science for life™

Invitation for Managing Delayed Bleeding & Perforation + Live endoscopy demonstration from Japan

Please join us for a forum on Managing Delayed Bleeding & Perforation

Event Details

16th March 2026
5.45pm arrival for
6.00pm - 9:30pm AEST

Vaudeville Ballroom, Le Méridien
Melbourne, 20 Bourke Street, Melbourne



Agenda

6:00 pm – Live-streamed endoscopy demonstration: Gastric Lesion Assessment and ESD technique : Prof. Hideki Kobara (Kagawa University, Japan), locally moderated by Dr Kunihisa Uchita (Red Cross Kochi)

7:15 pm – Visiting speaker: Dr.Fumisato Sasaki (Kagoshima University). Practical Endoscopic Defect Closure Techniques: Made-in-Japan Approaches

7:45–9:30 pm – Interactive video-based case discussion
Moderated by Dr Larry Lai and Ali Eqbal (Peninsula Health)

RSVP

Elke Hovatta
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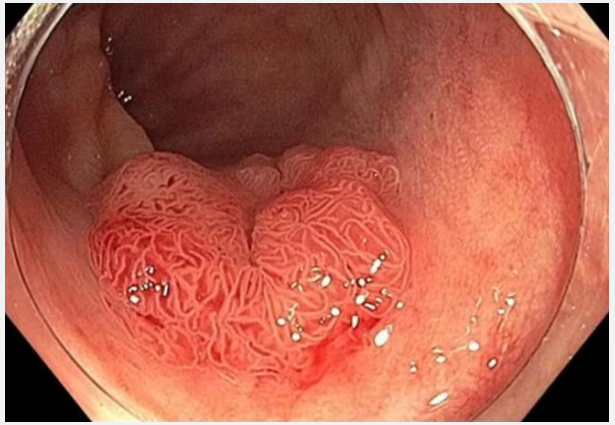
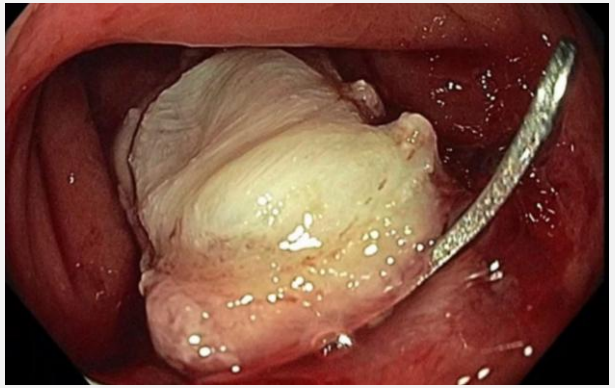
elke.hovatta@bsci.com

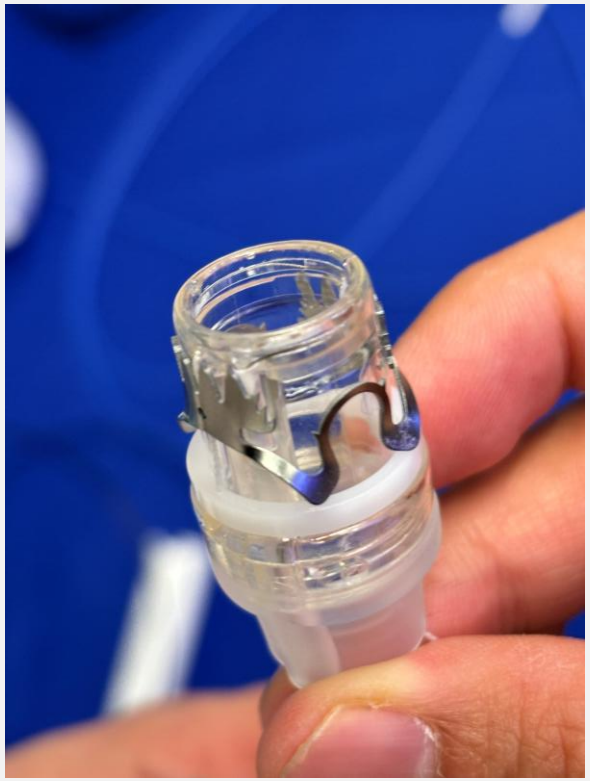
Adaptation is a Two-Way Process

While bringing experience from Japan, I continue to learn from different clinical approaches, healthcare systems, and devices not yet available in Japan.

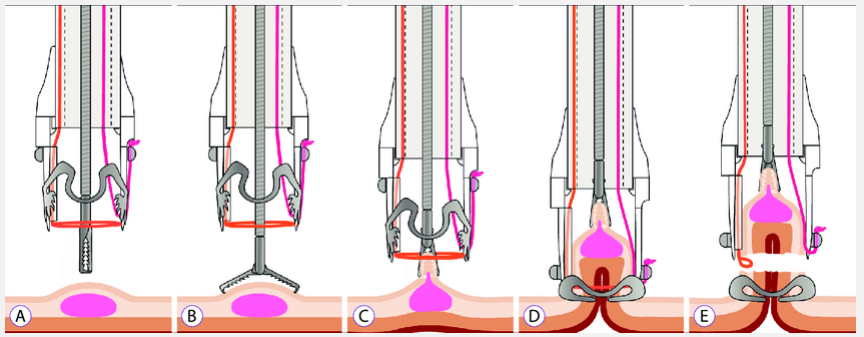
Full-thickness resection device (FTRD)











Images provided by Ovesco Endoscopy AG

Adaptation is a Two-Way Process

Duodenal Mucosal Resurfacing (DMR)

A New Frontier in Metabolic Endoscopy

WHAT

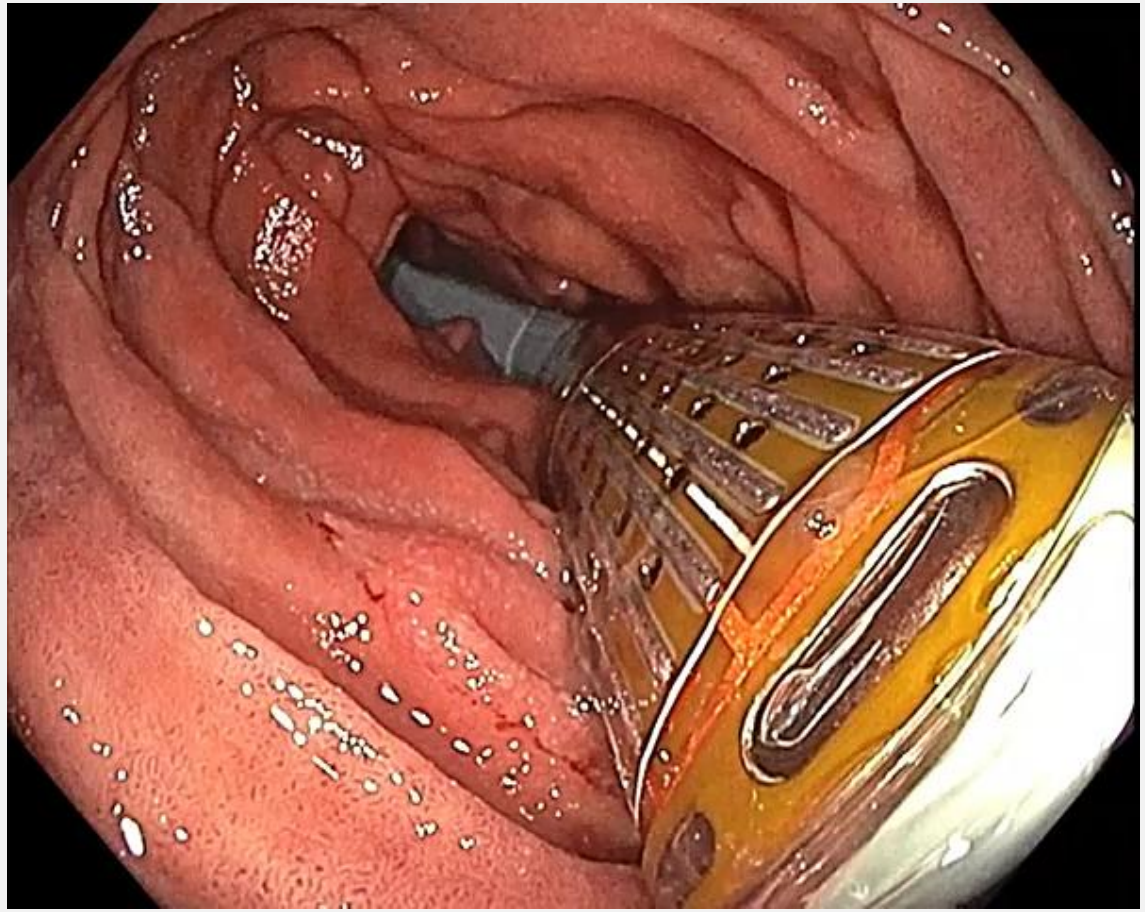
A minimally invasive endoscopic treatment for **type 2 diabetes**

HOW

Controlled hydrothermal ablation of the duodenal mucosa, followed by **mucosal regeneration**

WHY

Aims to improve **insulin sensitivity and glycaemic control**



Two-way learning from technologies not yet widely available in Japan

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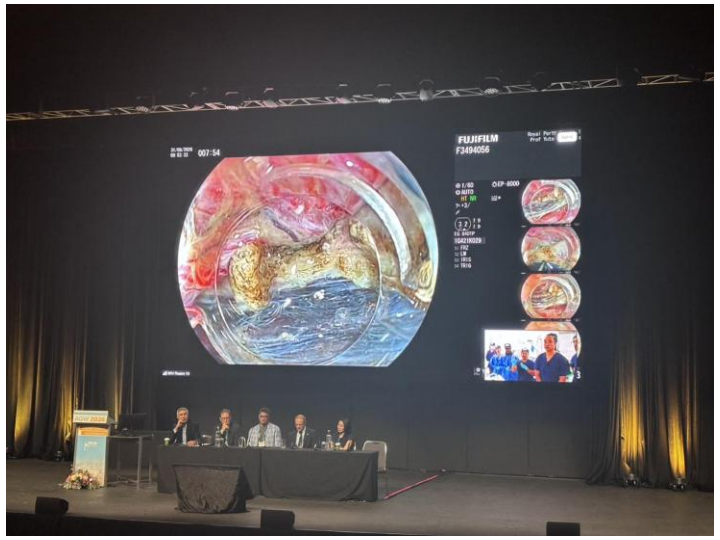
Building a National Network



AGW 2026

Australian Gastroenterology Week



ENDOSKILLS





Royal Perth Endoscopy Masterclass (Perth)



Building a National Network

PORT MACQUARIE ESD COURSE



01
PORT MACQUARIE



02
MELBOURNE





03
SYDNEY

Reconnecting with Japanese colleagues

Next step in Asia-Pacific

The next step is to build a stronger Asia-Pacific network

TRAIN TOGETHER

Develop shared education, mentorship, and clinical exchange

STUDY TOGETHER

-Build multicentre research networks and regional registries

LEARN TOGETHER

Expand mentorship and clinical exchange across healthcare system

GROW TOGETHER

Create opportunities and enduring connections for the next generation

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The future of endoscopy in Asia-Pacific will be built through collaboration across borders.

Take Home Message

Build on your past and choose where you can grow.

APPRECIATE	Recognise the value of your current environment and the people who shaped you.
REFLECT	Understand what each experience taught you and which strengths to carry forward.
EXPLORE	Ask what a different environment could offer that your current one cannot.
STAY OPEN	Remain open to learning from different systems, cultures, and perspectives.
CHOOSE GROWTH	Choose a place where you can continue to grow, contribute, and create value.

Cherish **every connection**—
it may shape the **future**
of your career.

Global career development is not about leaving your past behind - it is about building on it in a new environment.







Thank you very much for your kind attention