

4th July 2024

To Whom It May Concern

1. Manager/Head of Department of the NSW staff member applying for travel
2. Financial Officer
3. Chief Executive

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am aware of the travel approval process changes with regards non-TESL overseas travel that came into effect on 1st March 2024 to ensure consistency with NSW whole-of-government policies. I am writing this letter to seek your support for approving applications by burn clinicians to travel to attend the 47th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Australian and New Zealand Burn Association (ANZBA), which will take place from 29 October to 1 November 2024 in Auckland, Aotearoa, New Zealand.

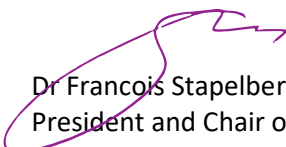
The ANZBA ASM is the premier event for burn care leaders and practitioners in Australia and New Zealand. It gathers influential leaders who drive the introduction and adoption of innovative care solutions in the pursuit of better burn care. This year's meeting revolves around the theme "Adapt to Thrive." In a constantly evolving world, the ability to adapt is paramount for not just surviving but thriving.

The ASM is hosted on a rotating basis in the cities where the burn services in all the Australian states are held, and every 7th year in New Zealand. The last NZ meeting was in 2016.

Burn clinicians include surgeons, nurses, anaesthetists, intensive care specialists, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, dieticians, speech language therapists, amongst others. We form a small and connected community throughout Australia and New Zealand and view the annual scientific meeting as an important moment each year to connect with one another. These connections have proven crucial in times of crisis, often making the difference for patients, and, in some cases, can be life-saving. Such connections have been forged through events like the Bali bombings, various major bushfire incidents, and more recently, the Whakaari White Island volcanic eruption that happened at the same time as the severe bushfire season in southern NSW, which required a truly bi-national response.

Thank you for considering this application for approval. The participation of our clinicians in this conference is vital for the continued advancement of burn care and fostering the essential connections within our community.

Your faithfully,



Dr Francois Stapelberg,
President and Chair of Education, ANZBA