The Workforce

Orthopaedic surgery is a medical specialty that focuses on the diagnosis, care and treatment of patients with disorders of the bones, joints, muscles, ligaments, tendons, nerves and skin. The Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) is accredited by the Australian Medical Council (AMC) to deliver surgery training.

Workforce Characteristics in 2015

- **413 Headcount**
- **3.4% Female**
- **46.4 hours per week**
- **53.1 years average age**
- **55.9% Workforce aged over 50**
- **27.6% Workforce aged over 60**
- **12 New Fellows in NSW in 2017**

Supply and Distribution

**Metropolitan Sydney**
- 286 headcount
- 46 hours per week
- 54 years average age
- 30% aged over 60
- Retirement intentions (60+): Next 1-2 years 13%, Next 3-5 years 42%, Next 6-10 years 34%

**Total NSW Workforce by Sector (percent)**
- Public only 37%
- Private only 5%
- Public and Private 3%
- Other 22.4%
- Other (Non-Clinical) 13.4%
- Hours by Sector: 64.2% Public, 13.4% Private

**Non-Metropolitan Sydney**
- 127 headcount
- 48 hours per week
- 51 years average age
- 22% aged over 60
- Retirement intentions (60+): Next 1-2 years 8%, Next 3-5 years 16%, Next 6-10 years 28%

Trainees

**Advanced Trainees in NSW:**
- 2015: 80
- 2016: 89
- 2017: 79

**NSW Trainees as % of Australia 2017:** 33.6%

**Proportion female Trainees in Australia 2017:** 27.7%

Data sourced: The National Health Workforce Dataset – Australian Government Department of Health; The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA); The Medical Education and Training in Australia Report (MET).
The Future in NSW - Workforce Planning to 2030

Workforce projections are provided for a low and high demand scenario. Where requirements for both scenarios are met without the need for additional fellows, the projected “No Growth” scenario workforce data is provided.

- Estimated Demand Growth: Between 1.0% (low demand scenario) to 2.3% (high demand scenario).
- Estimated Workforce Size: In 2030, 550 to 566 Headcount (assuming all additional fellows will enter the workforce).
- Estimated percentage over 60 years: In 2030, 19.9% to 20.5% of workforce over 60 years.

Estimated Additional Fellows: The high demand scenario requires additional fellows. Trainee numbers need to increase by approximately 1 per annum to meet projected 2030 requirements.

Workforce Planning Priority and Assessment Framework

- Retirement Intentions: The factor associated with workforce retiring within the next 2 and the next 5 years.
- Ageing > 60: Major factor
- Ageing > 70: Major factor
- New Fellow Requirements: The factor associated with the requirement to recruit additional trainees, based on workforce planning to 2030.
- Rating Key: Minimal Factor < Minor Factor < Moderate Factor < Major Factor

Workforce Modelling Considerations

- Workforce modelling is based on current models of care. Any change in the models may impact on requirements.
- Any changes to current training programs will affect the workforce modelling outcome.
- Workforce modelling is based on current workforce hours profile by age co-hours. Any changes to hours worked by future clinicians will affect the model.
- There is an accepted error rate of plus or minus two per cent within workforce modelling.
- The model does not address any mal-distribution either by location (rural or regional) or sector (public or private).