

Kia ora,

At our RANZCOG (Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists) Aotearoa Annual Scientific Meeting 2026 we are offering an important pre-conference workshop '[Ultrasound Scanning for Endometriosis](#)' on **Sunday 14 June** at the **Grand Millennium Auckland**.

Through this workshop we seek to educate and upskill practitioners (gynaecologists and sonographers) on the use of ultrasound scanning in endometriosis care. Part 2 of this workshop offers guided scanning practice with volunteer patients. This is capped at 20 places.

We are seeking volunteer patients to assist with this training opportunity. These patients will ideally have endometriosis and have not undergone a hysterectomy as part of their treatment journey to date.

We seek one patient who is willing to be scanned by Ali Deslandes, our lead facilitator for this day (specialist gynaecological sonographer and endometriosis researcher) from 11.50am – 12.30pm, this is for a demonstration during Part 1. The patient will be in a private screened space with only the internal imaging being shared to the main screen, Ali will talk with participants via a radio-mic.

We seek 4 – 8 patients for guided scanning practice which runs from 2.15 – 4.15pm. This will be broken into two hours, each with a different group. You can choose to do one or both hours. Each group will be made up of 5 participants, each with an expert tutor: Ali Deslandes (specialist gynaecological sonographer and endometriosis researcher, our lead workshop facilitator) and 3 of our consultants who are expert in scanning for endometriosis, Dr Michael Wynn-Williams, Dr Chloe Frei and Dr Guy Fisher. You can read more about our tutors [here](#).

Each volunteer will work with one group for the hour, they will be scanned using transvaginal ultrasound (i.e. a thin camera placed inside the vagina), with participants being guided by their tutor. We will have a screened space for each volunteer and their group, a private changing space and normal hospital protocols around privacy, hygiene and patient comfort.

You will also be asked to sign a patient permission form on the day. Respect and consent are a key focus during the entire workshop. If at any time you do not feel comfortable, you can request to stop, and the scan will immediately stop.

Importantly, these scans are all conducted for teaching purposes only and do not replace any formal diagnostic scans your doctor may suggest you have. No images will be stored, and no medical reports will be issued for these scans. Additionally, as we will be focusing on specific manoeuvres for educational purposes, we cannot guarantee that any pathology you may have will be detected. If we incidentally notice pathology which you may not be aware of, our facilitators will tell you this on the day and give you instructions regarding how to follow-up with your doctor.

Volunteers will be reimbursed for their time with a \$150 e-gift voucher (for one scanning session), \$200 e-gift voucher (for two scanning sessions), plus parking fees and mileage (we'll pay mileage using an expense claim afterwards), parking will be covered through a code at the hotel on the day.

Can you please tick/specify for us what you can offer on the day (you can choose 1, 2 or all):

- Scanning demonstration in Part 1: arrive 11.30am, demonstration from 11.50am – 12.30pm
- Guided scanning practice in Part 2: arrive 2.00pm, scanned from 2.15 – 3.15pm
- Guided scanning practice in Part 2: arrive 3.00pm, scanned from 3.15 – 4.15pm

Please email your response to Laura Collins, Events and Professional Development Lead, RANZCOG Aotearoa so she can liaise with you to organise your involvement lcollins@ranzcog.org.nz or if you'd like to call and discuss, that also fine – please call Laura on [+64 4 280 3978](tel:+6442803978).

Huge thanks for giving this your consideration. Your support of this professional development opportunity would be of enormous value to our practitioners and their future patients.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Ngā mihi nui

Laura Collins

Laura Collins (she/her)

Kaiwhakarite Tauwhāinga | Events and Professional Development Lead, NZ (Mondays to Fridays)



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