

RANZCO Global Eye Health Workshop – Auckland 2026

Theme: *Uveitis in Low Resource Communities: Practical Approaches, Partnerships and Impact*

Dates: 5–6 November 2026 | **Location:** Auckland, New Zealand

Organising Chairs: Prof. Nitin Verma | Prof. Mark Radford

THURSDAY 5 NOVEMBER 2026

Venue	Chairs
Auckland University	Chair: TBD

SICS Wetlab – Small Incision Cataract Surgery (Morning)

This practical wetlab session provides hands-on experience in Small Incision Cataract Surgery (SICS) techniques, relevant to both high-volume surgical settings and low-resource global eye health work.

Overall Structure

Time	Session
08:00–08:30	Registration & Welcome
08:30–09:30	Plenary Lectures – History & Nuts & Bolts of SICS
09:30–10:00	Panel Discussion
10:00–10:15	Morning Tea
10:15–12:15	SICS Wetlab Rotations (3 Groups) + Concurrent Lectures
12:15–12:30	Conclusion & Close

Detailed SICS Programme

Time	Session / Activity	Lead / Notes
08:00–08:30	Registration & Welcome	Verma / Radford
SESSION 1 — PLENARY LECTURES Chair: Prof. Nitin Verma & Prof. Mark Radford		
08:30–08:45	History & Geography of Cataract Surgery — The Role of SICS in Today's World	Prof Nitin Verma
08:45–09:30	The Nuts & Bolts - Basics of SICS (and the learning curve) - Surgical steps of SICS and its variations - Intra-operative complications of SICS and management strategies - When the going gets tough: is SICS the rescue technique for failed/abandoned phaco? - SICS in challenging situations (comorbidities incl. corneal pathology, glaucoma)	Dr Sunil Thangaraj, Dr. Minu Mathen, Dr. Vignesh Raja

Time	Session / Activity	Lead / Notes
09:30–10:00	Panel Discussion <i>Moderators: Prof. Nitin Verma, TBD</i> • Role of SICS in contemporary ophthalmic practice • Role of SICS in low-resource settings	Faculty Panel
10:00–10:15	MORNING TEA	
SESSION 2 — SUPERVISED SICS WETLAB ROTATIONS + CONCURRENT LECTURES		
Group 1	10:15–10:55	Instructor: TBC
Group 2	10:55–11:35	Instructor: TBC
Group 3	11:35–12:15	Instructor: TBC
12:15–12:30	CONCLUSION & CLOSE — Closing remarks, next steps, acknowledgements	Prof Mark Radford

Concurrent Lectures (during wetlab rotations — repeatable ×3 rotations) – dependant on how many participants in wetlab

Lec.	Proposed Topic	Suggested Speaker
A	Getting Involved with Global Eye Health Initiatives	Verma / Radford
B	Helping out Locally: Remote and Regional Initiatives (including First Nations Eye Health)	TBD
C	Film / Surgical Video Session or Participant-led Case Presentation	TBD

12:30–13:30 | Lunch & Networking

Glaucoma Wetlab – Practical Skills Workshop (Afternoon)

This practical wetlab session provides hands-on experience in glaucoma techniques, relevant to both high-volume surgical settings and low-resource global eye health work.

Overall Structure

Time	Session
12:30–13:30	Registration (concurrent with Lunch & Networking)
13:30–13:40	Welcome & Introduction
13:40–14:40	The Nuts & Bolts – Didactic Lectures
14:40–15:00	AFTERNOON TEA
15:00–17:00	Glaucoma Wetlab Rotations (3 Groups) + Concurrent Lectures
17:00–17:10	Conclusion & Close

Detailed Glaucoma Programme

Time	Session / Activity	Lead / Notes
12:30–13:30	Registration	12:30–13:30
SESSION 1 — PLENARY LECTURES Chair: Prof. Nitin Verma & Prof. Mark Radford		
13:30–13:40	Welcome & Introduction	Prof Nitin Verma
13:40–14:40	The Nuts & Bolts – Didactic Lectures - SICS Trabs Trabeculectomy techniques (simulation) (Sunil Thangaraj) - Tube surgery principles (Michael Coote) - Phaco Trabs (Graham Lee) - Managing complications in low-resource settings	Lead: Dr Sunil Thangaraj, Prof. Graham Lee Faculty: Prof. Ashish Agar, Dr. Michael Coote, NZ Faculty?
14:40–15:00	AFTERNOON TEA	
SESSION 2 — SUPERVISED GLAUCOMA WETLAB ROTATIONS + CONCURRENT LECTURES		
Group 1	15:00–15:40	Instructor: TBC
Group 2	15:40–16:20	Instructor: TBC
Group 3	16:20–17:00	Instructor: TBC
17:00–17:10	CONCLUSION & CLOSE — Closing remarks, acknowledgements	Prof Mark Radford & Prof. Nitin Verma

Concurrent Lectures (during wetlab rotations — repeatable ×3 rotations) – dependant on how many participants in wetlab

Lec.	Proposed Topic	Suggested Speaker
A	Getting Involved with Global Eye Health Initiatives	Verma / Radford
B	Helping out Locally: Remote and Regional Initiatives (including First Nations Eye Health)	TBD
C	Film / Surgical Video Session or Participant-led Case Presentation	TBD

FRIDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2026

Global Eye Health Workshop

Program outline

Time	Session
09:00–09:15	Welcome Remarks
09:15–10:45	Session 1 – Setting the Scene & Didactic Talks
10:45–11:15	Morning Tea
11:15–12:30	Session 2 – Regional Case Presentations & Expert Panel
12:30–13:30	Lunch & Networking
13:30–14:50	Session 3 – RANZCO & Fred Hollows Foundation New Zealand (FHFNZ) Global Eye Health Session
14:50–15:00	Closing Remarks
15:00–15:30	Afternoon Tea
15:30–16:30	Session 4 – Global Eye Health Public Session

09:00–09:15 | Welcome & Opening Remarks

Venue	Chairs
TBD	Prof. Nitin Verma, Prof. Mark Radford

Purpose: Set the scene – burden of uveitis in low-resource settings, importance of pragmatic approaches, and regional collaboration.

SESSION 1 (09:15–10:45)

Setting the Scene & Didactic Talks: Uveitis in the Pacific Region and Clinical Management Approaches

Venue	Chairs
TBD	Dr. Richard Symes, Dr. Avinash Pathengay, Dr. Jambi Garap

Objective: Ground the workshop in real-world challenges from the Pacific and Papua New Guinea, using survey data and regional experience to frame the practical challenges of uveitis management in low-resource settings.

Talks:

Time	Talk	Speaker
10 mins	Setting the scene – managing uveitis in a low resource Pacific Island setting: results of a WhatsApp Survey	Prof. Nitin Verma & Dr. Daniel Langridge
10 mins	Uveitis in Papua New Guinea – what do we see?	Dr. Jambi Garap Papua New Guinea
15 mins	Long-term uveitis management: local treatment, systemic steroids and immunosuppression	Dr. Richard Symes Sydney Eye Hospital
15 mins	Posterior uveitis: a deeper dive	Dr. Avinash Pathengay L V Prasad Eye Institute

Time	Talk	Speaker
15 mins	The many faces of infectious uveitis	Dr. Anup Kelgaonkar L V Prasad Eye Institute
15 mins	Practical support from tertiary centres – building education and mentoring links	Prof. Peter McCluskey Sydney Eye Hospital
10 mins	Discussion	Chairs

12:30–13:30 | Morning Tea

SESSION 2 (11:15–12:30)

Regional Case Presentations & Expert Panel

Venue	Chairs
TBD	Dr. Richard Symes, Dr. Avinash Pathengay, Dr. Anup Kelgaonkar, Prof. Peter McCluskey

Objective: Bring real-world regional experience to the fore through case presentations from across the Asia-Pacific, with expert speakers on panel to draw out clinical learning points and practical management strategies.

Regional Case Presentations (8 mins each):

Case	Topic	Speaker
Case 1	Uveitis in Papua New Guinea	Dr. Jambi Garap
Case 2	Uveitis in Samoa	Dr. Lucille Ah Ching-Sefo
Case 3	Uveitis in Tonga	Dr. Duke Mataka
Case 4	Uveitis in Solomon Islands	Dr. Carole Poloso
Case 5	Uveitis in Vanuatu	Dr. Andronico Ly
Case 6	Uveitis in Fiji	TBD
Case 7	Uveitis in Hobart, Tasmania	Dr. Daniel Langridge
Panel	Expert Panel Discussion & Q&A (19 mins) Drawing out clinical learning points and practical management strategies from each case.	Dr. Richard Symes Dr. Avinash Pathengay Dr. Anup Kelgaonkar Prof. Peter McCluskey

12:30–13:30 | Lunch & Networking

SESSION 3 (13:30–14:50)

RANZCO & Fred Hollows Foundation New Zealand (FHFNZ) Global Eye Health Session

Venue	Chairs
TBD	Prof. Nitin Verma & Dr. Audrey Aumua

Objective: Highlight systems-level solutions, workforce development, Pacific partnerships, and FHFNZ programme delivery models.

Speakers:

Speaker	Topic / Role
13:30–13:45 Prof. Nitin Verma <i>Chair, RANZCO Global Eye Health Committee</i>	RANZCO global eye health programmes and priorities
13:45–14:00 Sir Colin Tukuitonga <i>Associate Dean Pacific, University of Auckland</i>	Workforce development (Former Director SPC, CEO Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs, Director of Public Health, NZ MOH)
14:00–14:15 Bernadette Cavanagh <i>Deputy Secretary, Pacific and Development Group</i>	Pacific partnerships
14:15–14:30 Dr. Audrey Aumua	Overview of FHFNZ programmes in the Pacific

14:50–15:00 | Workshop Closing Remarks

Venue	Chairs
TBD	Prof. Nitin Verma, Prof. Mark Radford

15:00–15:30 | Afternoon Tea Break**SESSION 4 (15:30–16:30)****Global Eye Health Public Session**

Venue	Chairs
TBD	Prof. Nitin Verma, Prof. Mark Radford

Objective: Engage a broader audience and showcase impact, partnerships, and future opportunities.

Proposed Speakers:

Speaker	Organisation / Role
Prof. Nitin Verma	RANZCO
Dr. Alma Nacuva/Dr. Duke Mataka	PacEYES
TBD	Regional Speaker (Pacific/PNG)
TBD	Additional Speaker (India?)