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Full Reference: Marilyn Boo, Lynn Sadler, Susan Bigby, Lois Eva. HPV-associated and HPV-independent vulvar squamous cell carcinoma: Is there an impact of resection margins on local recurrence?

Conference/Meeting Name: Australian Society of Gynaecologic Oncologists (ASGO) conference

Location: Hobart, Australia

Dates: 6-9 March

Presentation Type: Oral presentation



The 2024 Australian Society of Gynaecologic Oncologists (ASGO) ASM was held in Hobart, Tasmania last week. The key invited speakers included Dr Pedro Ramirez and Dr Rene Pareja. Dr Ramirez was the only one who made it in person as Dr Pareja's visa was unfortunately not approved in time. Dr Ramirez presented the long-term minimally invasive surgery data following the LACC trial as well as a very thought-provoking presentation on the enhanced recovery after surgery programs (ERAS). Dr Marie Plante joined in via teleconference from ESGO in Spain to present her SHAPE trial research which was only published 2 weeks ago. This is a monumental, practice changing piece of research, 15 years in the making, for patients diagnosed with low-risk cervical cancer where a simple hysterectomy proves to be safe and less morbid than a radical hysterectomy.

There was also an interesting surgical presentation by one of the fellows from Melbourne, Georgina Mitchell about the use of ICG dye for ureteric identification for complex minimally invasive surgery (MIS). I thought this

would be an excellent trick to use (both safe and efficient) to locate the ureter when operating on complex cases since ICG is readily and safely used for the identification of sentinel lymph nodes in the majority of our MIS. The other interesting discussion was the 2023 staging of endometrial cancer, a quick poll in the room showed only 2 gynae oncologists have adopted the 2023 staging and management accordingly.

This conference has sparked new research ideas for me particularly looking at ERAS programs in our local hospitals comparing clinician and patient perceptions to see if we can improve the quality of care for our patients from this aspect. Additionally, we can now apply the findings from the SHAPE trial in caring for our patients with low-risk cervical cancer to avoid urinary and sexual morbidity associated with unnecessary radical hysterectomies.

My personal highlight was the trip to the MONA museum which was a mix of entertaining, intrigue and confusion. Cider tasting at the Willie Smith Apple Shed was also a delight.

