2020 ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING POSTPONED

24th March, 2020

Dear ANZSSFR members and colleagues,

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the uncertainty moving forward, the local organizing committee and the ANZSSFR council has made the decision to POSTPONE the 2020 Annual Scientific Meeting originally scheduled for November 26-28 at the Translational Research Institute in Brisbane. Our primary concern is to ensure the health, safety and well-being of all members and stakeholders and to avoid unnecessary risk. This is particularly important for many of our frontline health professionals working with older populations who are likely to play a crucial role in the continuity of health and aged care across Australia. Over the next few months we will be sharing further information with you once a new date in 2021 has been determined for the conference.

To continue to facilitate collegial discussions and active engagement amongst our senior and student/in-training members and clinical and allied health colleagues, the ANZSSFR council and the early-mid career research committee (EMCR) are currently considering a number of professional development opportunities this year. This may include online or virtual events, particularly targeting hot topics (latest research) and our EMCRs to allow them to continue to present and share their latest research findings, and possibly state-based forums later in the year. Further information will be provided as soon as possible.

These are clearly unprecedented times and I would encourage you all to think about how you may be able to support your colleagues and other members within our ANZSSFR and related scientific communities.

Finally, I would like to thank the local conference organizing committee and Lara Malcolm from the Meeting People for all the work they have undertaken to date for the conference. I hope that you will be able to join us at the next meeting in 2021 and continue to support ANZSSFR and any events that we conduct this year.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Robin Daly
President, ANZSSFR