



Nurse Endoscopy: Innovative Workforce

Sylvia Constantinou

Program Manager:- State Endoscopy Training Centre

Austin Health

Why Nurse Endoscopy?

- Preventable Cancer if detected early
- Growing numbers of waiting lists and waiting times
- Solutions with budget constraints considered
- Workforce innovation (new career pathway)
- Extended Scope of Practice – Advanced Practice Nurse Endoscopy

Increasing demand for colonoscopy procedures

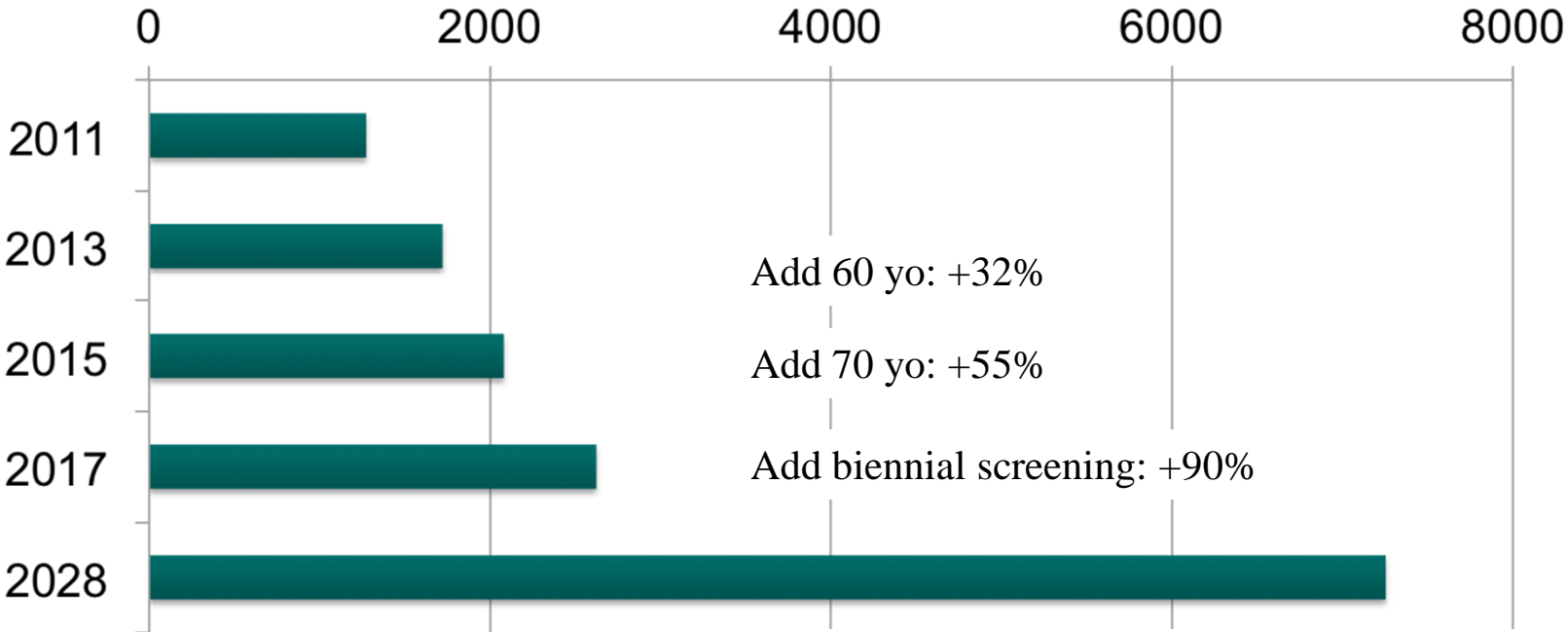
- Increased breadth of indications for therapeutic and diagnostic procedures.
- Screening programmes
 - ❖ Increased public awareness of the importance of screening programmes.
 - ❖ National Bowel Cancer Screening Program
 - ❖ Ageing population
 - ❖ Greater understanding of familial links

Background to Austin Health's Innovative response to Bowel Cancer Screening

- Colorectal cancer is the **second** most common cancer in men and women in Australia
- One of the most **preventable** cancers
- **Screening** improves early detection, treatment and survival
- Austin Health involved in pilot of National Bowel Cancer Screening Program (**NBCSP**) 2002 and subsequent roll-out
- Between July 2012 and Dec 2015, 4.8 million eligible Australians will have been offered free bowel cancer screening

Projected increase in NBSCP Colonoscopies

NBCSP Colonoscopies Projections (Vic)



Public colonoscopies +369% of current rate (2011)

Dr. Rhys Vaughan

HWA Project

- Austin Health successful grant application to Victorian Dept of Health Workforce Innovation Program
- July 2011 trainee appointed
- 2012 Health Workforce Australia initiate Nurse Endoscopy Project
- Austin Health:- Lead site in Victoria
- Logan Hospital:- Lead site in Qld
- Victorian Implementation sites:- Austin, Alfred, Monash and Western

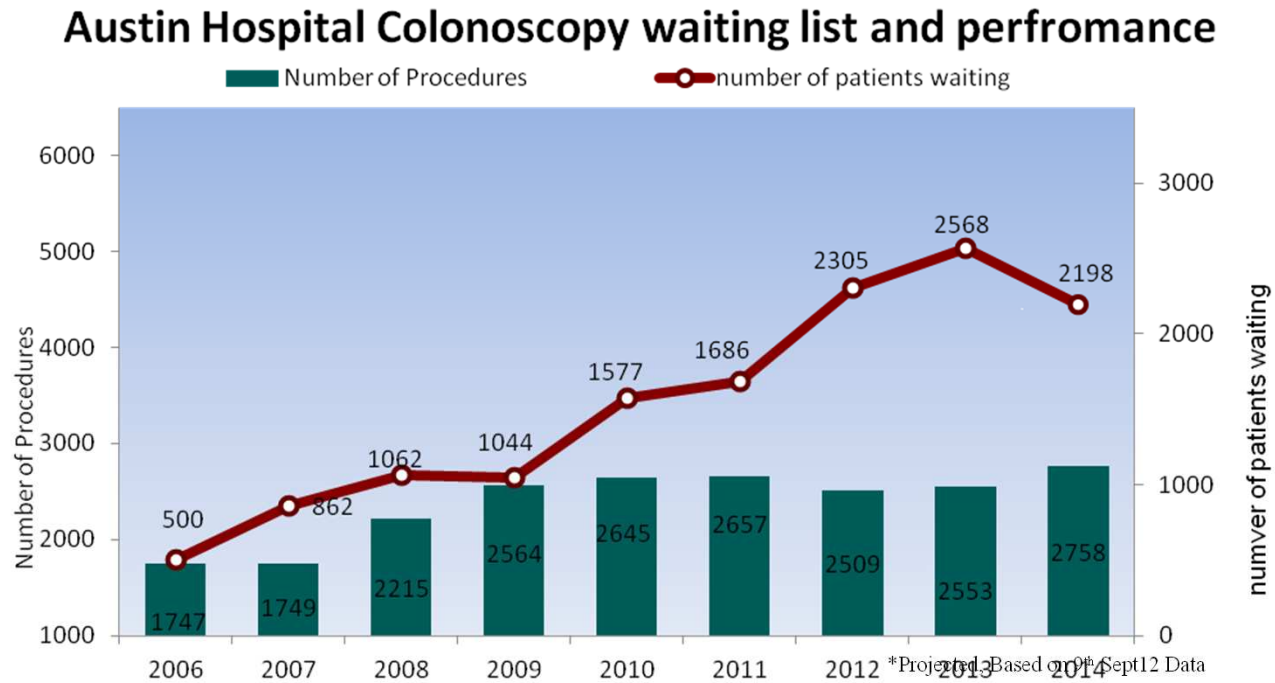
State Endoscopy Training Centre

- State Endoscopy Training Centre (SETC) is established:- January 2014
- Funded by Department of Health Victoria
- Goal:- 10 Public Hospitals, with at least one Nurse Endoscopist, in the next four years
- Working in partnership with Victorian Public Hospitals to implement a training program based on the training pathway arising from the HWA project

Key Features of the Victorian NE Program

- Multidisciplinary team based approach to service delivery
- Health Services have demonstrated their readiness as an organisation to support a Nurse Endoscopy Program
- NE trainees have the necessary pre-requisites to successfully complete the training program under the supervision of a medical consultant

Austin Hospital Colonoscopy waiting list and performance

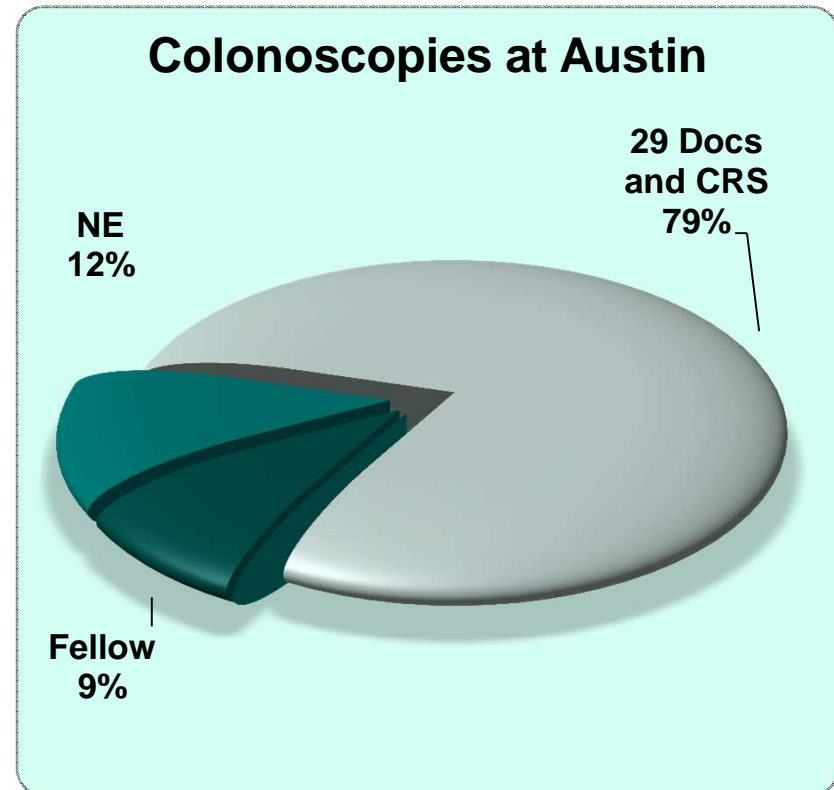


Current Situation in Victoria

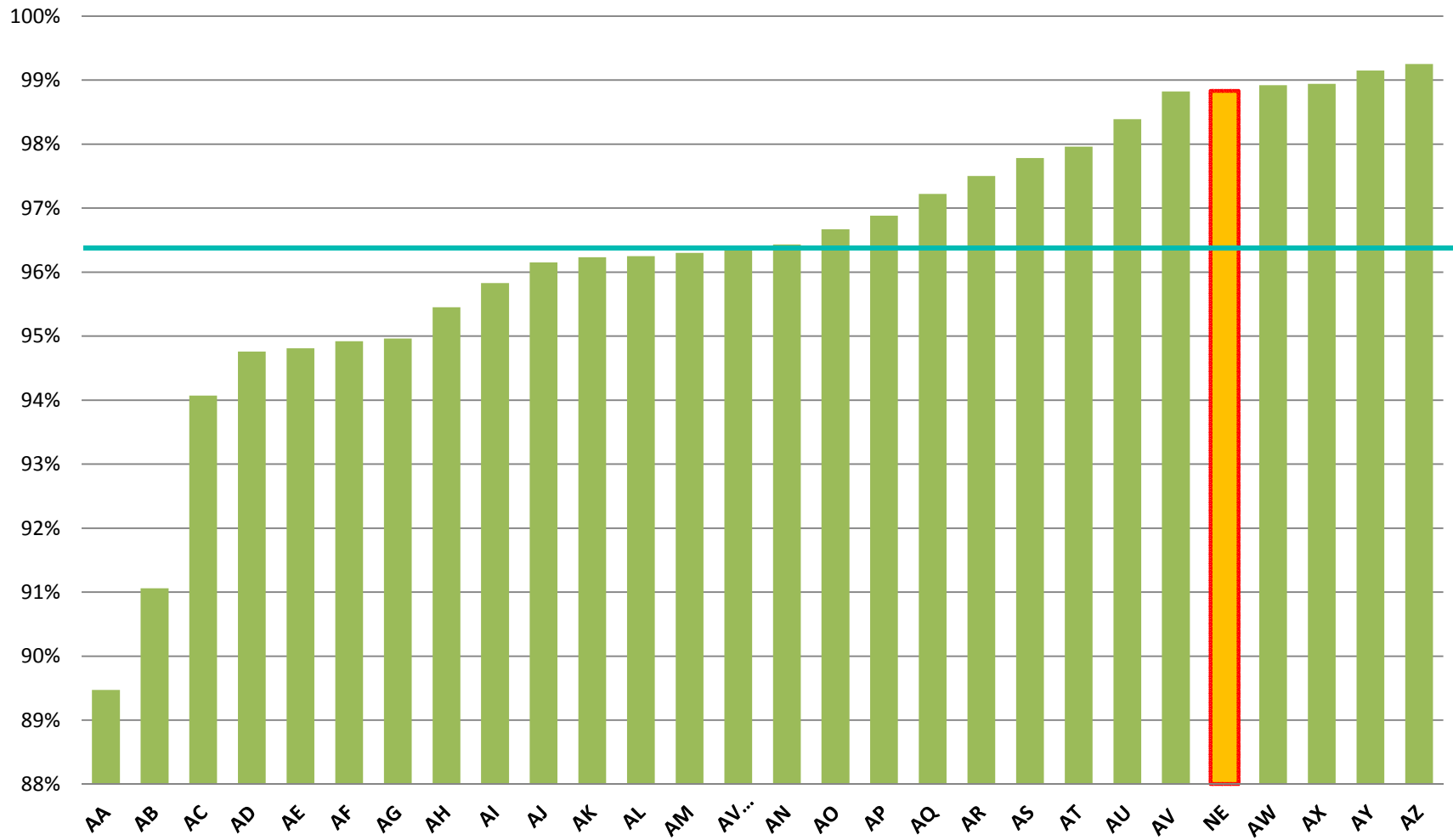
- Two Nurse Endoscopists
- Three NE trainees approaching sign off
- Two new trainees
 - Melbourne Health
 - Eastern Health
- Theoretical training component supplied via University of Hull in the UK
- Practical training provided by participating Health Services and Austin Health SETC

Impact of Nurse Endoscopy at Austin

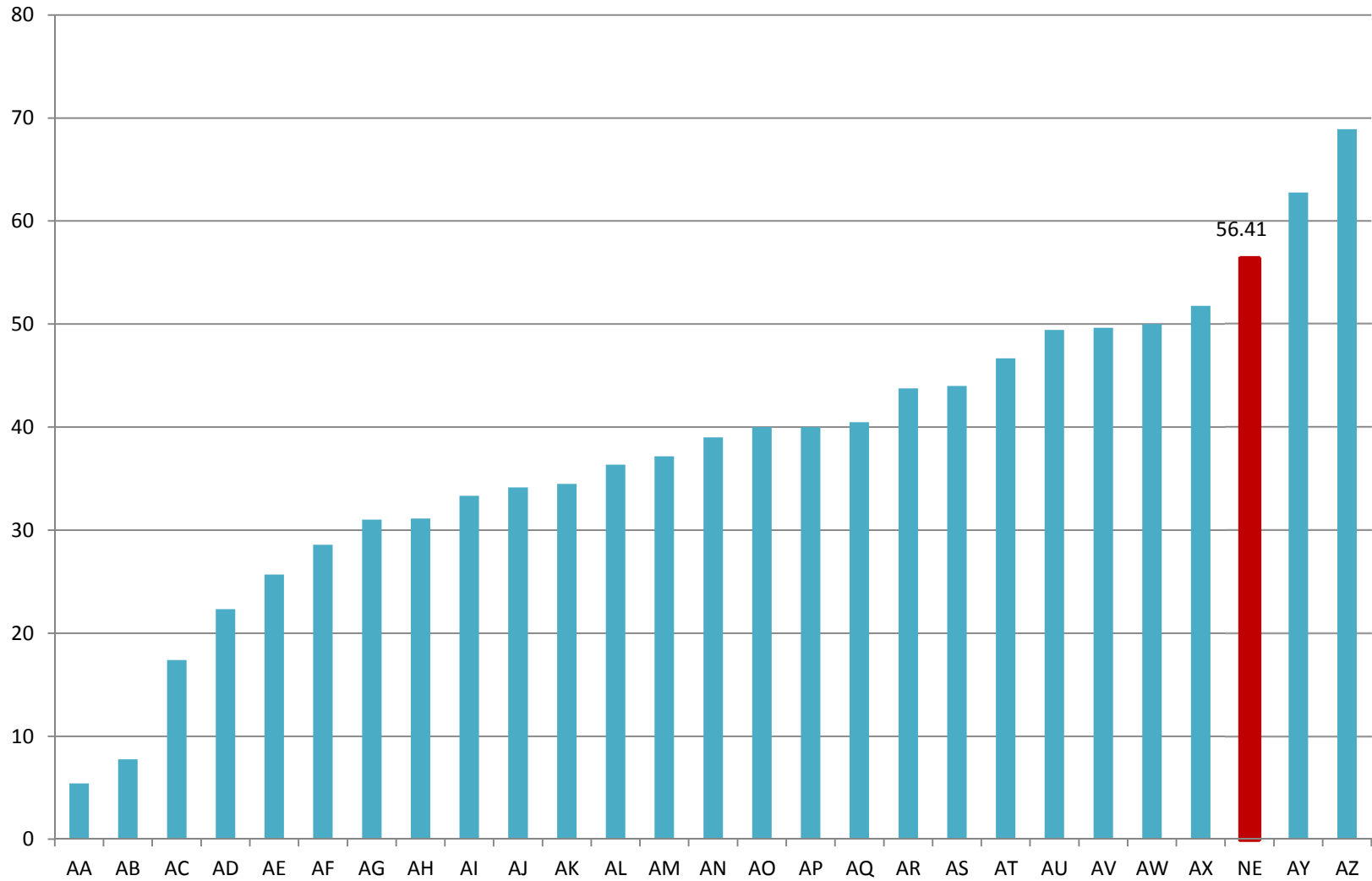
- Nurse commenced **dedicated list** in Feb 2013
- **12%** of colonoscopies (350/2892) since first list
- Without adverse events
- High completion rate
- High polyp detection rate



Procedure completion rate form 25-02-2013 to 25-02-2014



Polyp detection rate



Nurse led Out patient clinic

Total number of Patients	Pre-procedure assessment patients	Post-procedure review patients	Patient declined nurse endoscopy procedures
219	164	55	5

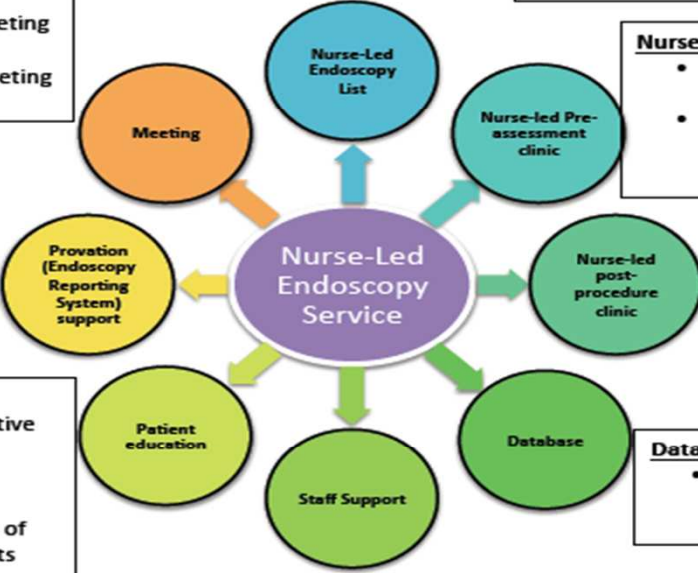
Nurse-Led Endoscopy Service

Jomon Joseph
Endoscopy Advanced Practice Nurse

- Meetings**
- Weekly pathology meeting
 - Weekly gastroenterology education meeting
 - Weekly endoscopy office meeting
 - Attend industry-sponsored National meeting
 - Attend gastroenterology conferences

- ProVation (new reporting system) Support**
- Training for nurses and doctors for the endoscopy reporting system
 - Super-user for ProVation
 - Ongoing support with ProVation
 - Data reports and data collection from ProVation for audit

- Patient Education**
- Provide pre- and post-operative supportive care
 - Develop and update patient education materials
 - Health promotion and health education of National bowel cancer screening patients
 - Patients educated and referred to screening programs for family history of bowel cancer
 - Provide assistance to gastroenterology patients with general queries



- Nurse-led Endoscopy List**
- Manage and perform nurse-led colonoscopy list on Monday
 - Provide reports on endoscopy procedures
 - Maintain procedure log book
 - Follow up histology

- Nurse-led pre-assessment clinic**
- Assess GP referral patient in clinic and consider for endoscopy procedure
 - Pre procedure assessment for patients from the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program

- Nurse led Post Endoscopy review clinic**
- Review patients after endoscopy in gastroenterology clinic
 - Review histology reports
 - Organise surveillance/Screening procedures

- Database**
- Develop and maintain bowel cancer screening and follow-up patients

- Staff support**
- Provide education to staff
 - Provide resources such as patient information pamphlets at request
 - Support and guidance for Nurse Endoscopist trainees

Future

Train Nurse Endoscopists to be:-

- Safe
- Procedurally proficient
- Can perform colonoscopy independently and safely
- Capable of following patients from clinic, through colonoscopy, pathology and finally back to clinic
- Team member of the Gastroenterology Department
- Can increase the throughput of patients requiring colonoscopy in our Public Hospitals

Summary

- Increased demand for colonoscopy
- Nurse endoscopy is utilised safely with high standards & satisfaction in Europe and USA (and now in Australia)
- Career path for suitable endoscopy nurse as part of a endoscopy service team with backup, support, supervision
- We have a responsibility to patients to endeavour to provide timely health care. Colonoscopy is not exempt.
- **Bowel Cancer is preventable**

Victorian Public Healthcare Awards 2013

Nurse Endoscopy initiation team won the Minister for Health's Award for achieving a highly capable and engaged workforce

