



## 2026 World UBE Society Australia Annual Congress Melbourne

**Dinner and Meeting:** Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> -  
Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2026  
**Where:** RACV City Club, Melbourne

**Cadaveric Workshop:** Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2026  
**Where:** The University of Melbourne

### W UBE Congress 2026 PROGRAM

\*Please note this program is subject to change \*\* All times are in AEST

| Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2026   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1200-1600                              | Exhibition Set Up                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 1500-1730                              | Registration Open <span style="float: right;">Level 2, Pre-function foyer</span>                                                                                                                                    |
| 1600-1730                              | W UBE Board Meeting (invitation only) <span style="float: right;">Wine Cellar CL Level</span>                                                                                                                       |
| 1730-1830                              | Opening of Exhibition and Canapes <span style="float: right;">Bayside Rooms</span>                                                                                                                                  |
| 1830-2130                              | <b>Congress Dinner &amp; Keynotes</b> <span style="float: right;">Pavillion Room</span>                                                                                                                             |
| 1830-1845                              | Welcome: <b>John Choi</b><br>CGBIO Update: <b>Jung Won Kang</b><br>Sommelier Review of Wines: <b>Camm Whiteoak</b>                                                                                                  |
| 1845-1900                              | UBE surgery in Korea and penetration of UBE around the world: <b>Jeong-Yoon Park</b>                                                                                                                                |
| 1900-1915                              | UBE innovations and developments from US perspective: <b>Don Park</b>                                                                                                                                               |
| 1915-1930                              | UBE in India - How is the training conducted in India: <b>Ashwinkumar Khandge</b>                                                                                                                                   |
| 1930-2030                              | Dinner with Performance by <b>Invictus Quartet</b>                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 2030-2130                              | Whisky Masterclass (Dessert pairing): <b>Adam Douglas</b>                                                                                                                                                           |
| Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2026 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 0715                                   | Registration Open <span style="float: right;">Level 2, Pre-function foyer Pavillon Room</span>                                                                                                                      |
| 0745-0815                              | Congress Breakfast <span style="float: right;"><b>Sponsored by Baxter</b></span><br>Haemostasis in spine surgery: <b>Steve Yang</b> <span style="float: right;">Moderators: Greg Finch &amp; Meenu Shunmugam</span> |
| 0815-0830                              | Welcome Address & Introduction of Society: <b>John Choi</b> <span style="float: right;">Pavillon Room</span><br>Housekeeping: <b>Mitch Hansen</b>                                                                   |
| 0830 - 0910                            | <b>Session 1: Basic Science-UBE Surgery</b> <span style="float: right;">Pavillon Room</span><br>Moderators: Ben Beer & Ju Eon Kim <span style="float: right;"><b>Sponsored by Medtronic Australasia</b></span>      |
| 0830-0840                              | History of UBE surgery -where did it start: <b>Meenu Shunmugam</b>                                                                                                                                                  |
| 0840-0850                              | Fluid dynamic in UBE Surgery: <b>Hari Bandi</b>                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 0850-0900                              | Differences of biportal over uniportal surgery: <b>Greg Finch</b>                                                                                                                                                   |
| 0900-0910                              | Panel: Question time                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 0910-0930                              | <b>SIM models &amp; Exhibition</b> <span style="float: right;">Bayside Rooms</span><br><span style="float: right;"><b>Sponsored by LifeHealthcare</b></span>                                                        |
| 0930-1010                              | <b>Session 2: Invited Speakers</b> <span style="float: right;">Pavillon Room</span><br>Moderators: John Choi <span style="float: right;"><b>Sponsored by Arthrex Australia</b></span>                               |
| 0930-0945                              | Dural Tears in UBE Surgery: Practical Lessons in Prevention, Recognition and Management:<br><b>Tsung Cheng Yin</b>                                                                                                  |
| 0945-1000                              | UBE Spine Surgery Complications - When minimally invasive doesn't mean risk-free: <b>Keyur Akbari</b>                                                                                                               |
| 1000-1010                              | Panel: Question time                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 1010-1045                              | <b>SIM models/ Exhibition and Morning Tea</b> <span style="float: right;">Bayside Rooms</span><br><span style="float: right;"><b>Sponsored by Evolution Surgical</b></span>                                         |
| 1045-1200                              | <b>Session 3: Lumbar Spine -UBE Surgery</b> <span style="float: right;">Pavillon Room</span><br>Moderators: Steven Yang & Don Park <span style="float: right;"><b>Sponsored by Globus Medical</b></span>            |
| 1045-1055                              | Learning curve and start journey of UBE surgery: <b>Josh Piercey</b>                                                                                                                                                |
| 1055-1105                              | Step by step – UBE discectomy: <b>Ben Beer</b>                                                                                                                                                                      |

|             |                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1105-1115   | Step by step- ULBD for stenosis: <b>Vinay Kulkarni</b>                                                                                                                               |
| 1115-1125   | Step by step-UBE TLIF: <b>Ju Eon Kim</b>                                                                                                                                             |
| 1125-1135   | Complication management in lumbar UBE surgery: <b>Jeong-Yoon Park</b>                                                                                                                |
| 1135-1150   | Panel: Question time                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 1150-1230   | <b>SIM models/ Exhibition and Lunch</b> Bayside Rooms<br>Sponsored by Additive Surgical                                                                                              |
| 1230-1240   | <b>Congress Photo</b>                                                                                                                                                                |
| 1240-1310   | Clinical experience with the DenerveX MIS Rotocapsular Facet Denervation platform: <b>Marc Coughlan</b><br>Moderators: Mitch Hansen & Vinay Kulkarni Sponsored by Connexion Surgical |
| 1310-1420   | <b>Session 4: Cervical Spine - UBE Surgery</b> Pavillon Room<br>Moderators: Josh Piercey / Pang Hung Wu Sponsored by Matrix                                                          |
| 1310-1320   | Basic Anatomy and Setup for Cervical UBE surgery: <b>Farhaan Altaf</b>                                                                                                               |
| 1320-1330   | Benefits of cervical UBE surgery thru case studies: <b>Don Park</b>                                                                                                                  |
| 1330-1340   | Step by step - UBE cervical foraminotomy: <b>John Choi</b>                                                                                                                           |
| 1340-1350   | How to Enhance fusion rate Fusion materials and cage selection: <b>Ju Eon Kim</b>                                                                                                    |
| 1350-1400   | Cervical lamino-foraminotomy using UBE: Step-by-step technique and danger zones: <b>Ashwinkumar Khandge</b>                                                                          |
| 1400-1410   | Step by step - UCBD for stenosis: <b>Hyun Jin Park</b>                                                                                                                               |
| 1410-1420   | Panel: Question time                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 1420-1500   | <b>SIM models/ Exhibition and Afternoon Tea</b> Bayside Rooms<br>Sponsored by Diverse Spine                                                                                          |
| 1500-1605   | <b>Session 5: Advanced Applications of UBE Surgery</b> Pavillon Room<br>Moderators: Farhaan Altaf/ Ashwinkumar Khandge Sponsored by CGBIO                                            |
| 1500-1510   | Thoracic decompression surgery - case studies: <b>Pang Hung Wu</b>                                                                                                                   |
| 1510-1520   | Feasibility, technique, and outcome of rhBMP-2 in BELIF: <b>Sang Min Park</b>                                                                                                        |
| 1520-1530   | Beyond Prototypes: The Next Era of Spine Robotics: <b>Seong Yi</b>                                                                                                                   |
| 1530-1540   | Application of UBE-TLIF in Revision Surgery: <b>Hyun Jin Park</b>                                                                                                                    |
| 1540-1550   | Managing patients expectations and cooling the "hype": <b>Mitch Hansen</b>                                                                                                           |
| 1550-1605   | Panel: Question time                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 1605-1645   | <b>SIM models/ Exhibition</b> Bayside Rooms<br>Sponsored by Neurophysiology Services Australia                                                                                       |
| 1645 - 1700 | <b>Session 6: Medicolegal and Closing Session</b> Pavillon Room<br>Moderator: Steven Yang Sponsored by Tae & Partner                                                                 |
| 1645-1655   | Medicolegal scene in the adoption of new surgical technique: <b>Tenny Kim</b>                                                                                                        |
| 1655-1700   | Closing remarks / Reveal of World UBE Australia 2027: <b>John Choi</b>                                                                                                               |
| 1700-1900   | <b>Exhibition - Networking Function &amp; Canapes</b> Bayside Rooms<br>Sponsored by Life Healthcare, Tae & Partners, Evolution Surgical, Medtronic, Globus Medical, Arthrex          |
| 1930-2200   | <b>World UBE Board and International Faculty Dinner (Invitation Only)</b>                                                                                                            |

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2026**

|            |                                                             |                                                                                  |                             |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
|            | Cadaveric Workshop: <b>Pre-registration Only</b>            |                                                                                  | <b>Sponsored by CGBIO</b>   |
| 0730       | Transfers depart RACV City Club to The University Melbourne |                                                                                  |                             |
| 0730– 1630 | Registration Open                                           |                                                                                  | The University of Melbourne |
|            | Morning Schedule: Basic Lumbar / thoracic approaches        |                                                                                  |                             |
| 0830-0900  | <b>Cadavers 1-4<br/>Fundamentals and Instrumentation</b>    | <b>Cadaver 5 &amp; 6 Advanced<br/>Cervical &amp; Thoracic</b>                    |                             |
|            | Optics: 0-degree vs. 30-degree endoscopes                   | Cervical portals: Posterior cervical spine landmarks                             |                             |
|            | Triangulation: Portal placement and fluid dynamics          | Foraminotomy: Keyhole foraminotomy for radiculopathy                             |                             |
|            | Instruments: Radiofrequency probes and specialized burrs    | Laminoplasty: Bilateral decompression via unilateral approach                    |                             |
|            | Safety: Managing pump pressure and vision                   |                                                                                  |                             |
| 0900-1030  | <b>Unilateral Laminotomy (Ipsilateral Decompression)</b>    | Cord safety: Epidural venous plexus bleeding control                             |                             |
|            | Targeting: Flavectomy window and lamina borders.            | Thoracic anatomy: Rib head and lamina junctions                                  |                             |
|            | Bone work: Inferior laminotomy and cranial extension        | Myelopathy: Safe decompression for thoracic stenosis                             |                             |
|            | Ligamentum flavum: Splitting, peeling, and resecting        | Ossification: Managing ossified ligamentum flavum                                |                             |
|            | Milestones: Visualizing the lateral recess margins          |                                                                                  |                             |
| 1030-1200  | <b>Contralateral Decompression (Over-the-Top Approach)</b>  | <b>Lumbar / Interbody Fusion (UBE-LIF/TLIF)</b>                                  |                             |
|            | Base view: Base of the spinous process                      | Endplate prep: Scrapers, burrs, and visual verification                          |                             |
|            | Angulation: Endoscope tilt for contralateral viewing        | Trialling: Serial dilation and height restoration                                |                             |
|            | Bone resection: Contralateral sublaminar bone removal       | Grafting: Large-volume bone graft delivery techniques                            |                             |
|            | Flavectomy: Decompressing the contralateral lateral recess  | Cage insertion: Specialized expandable and static cages                          |                             |
| 1200-1230  | <b>Lunch break and Nucleoplasty - CGBIO</b>                 |                                                                                  |                             |
| 1230-1400  | <b>Lumbar Discectomy</b>                                    | <b>Revision Surgery and Scar Tissue</b>                                          |                             |
|            | Identification: Dural sac and traversing root               | Landmarks: Navigating distorted anatomy and bone landmarks                       |                             |
|            | Retraction: Safe axillary and shoulder mobilization         | Dissection: Separating epidural scar from dura                                   |                             |
|            | Annulotomy: Incision types and fragment retrieval           | Strategies: Sparing virgin bone for orientation                                  |                             |
|            | Checklist: Probing the hidden disc space                    | Adhesiolysis: Mechanical vs. fluid-jet tissue separation                         |                             |
| 1400-1500  | <b>Foraminotomy and Far-Lateral Decompression</b>           | <b>1400-1600<br/>Complex Pathology &amp; High-Level Complications and Repair</b> |                             |
|            | Anatomy: Extraforaminal zone and pars interarticularis      | High-grade migration: Migrated discs (cranial/caudal/posterior)                  |                             |
|            | Portal shift: Triangle for far-lateral access               | Cysts: Excision of synovial and ligamentous cysts                                |                             |

|           |                                                           |                                                           |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
|           | Resection: Tip of the superior articular process          | Biopsy: Endoscopic-guided target biopsy for lesions       |
|           | Exiting root: Decompression along the nerve path          | Far-migrated fragments: Multi-portal switching for access |
| 1500-1600 | Complication Management and Review                        |                                                           |
|           | Dural tears: Patching, sealing, and conversion criteria   | Dural repair: Endoscopic suturing and clip application    |
|           | Bleeding: Bone wax usage and radiofrequency control       | The Osteotome                                             |
|           | Integration: Ergonomics and operating room setup workflow |                                                           |
| 1600-1630 | Program wrap-up, Q&A, and certificate distribution        |                                                           |