



2026 World UBE Society Australia Annual Congress Melbourne

Dinner and Meeting: Friday 23rd -
Saturday 24th October 2026
Where: RACV City Club, Melbourne

Cadaveric Workshop: Sunday 25th October 2026
Where: The University of Melbourne

Draft Program

Friday 23rd October 2026
1800-2130

Dinner & Keynote Lectures

Welcome

John Choi

Keynote Lecture #1 - UBE surgery in Korea and penetration of UBE around the world

Jeong Yoon Park

Keynote Lecture #2 - UBE innovations and developments from US perspective

Don Park

Keynote Lecture #3 - UBE in India - How is the training conducted in India?

Ashwin Khandage

Saturday 24th October 2026

Welcome Address & Introduction of Society

John Choi

Housekeeping

Mitch Hansen

Sponsored Breakfast Session

Moderators: Greg Finch /
Meenu Shunmugam

Basic Science - UBE surgery

History of UBE surgery - where did it start?

Moderators: Ben Beer /
Ju Eon Kim

Fluid dynamics in UBE surgery

Meenu Shunmugam

Differences of biportal over uniportal surgery

Hari Bandi

Greg Finch

Coffee Break

Lumbar Spine - UBE Surgery

Learning curve and start journey of UBE surgery

Moderators: Steven Yang
/ Don Park

Step by step - UBE discectomy (video lecture)

Josh Piercy

Step by step - ULBD for stenosis (video lecture)

Ben Beer

Step by step - UBE TLIF (video lecture)

Steven Yang

Complication management in lumbar UBE surgery

Kim Ju Eon

Jeong-Yoon Park

Congress Picture & Lunch

Moderators: Mitch
Hansen / Vinay Kulkarni

Cervical Spine - UBE Surgery

Basic Anatomy and Setup for Cervical UBE surgery
Benefits of cervical UBE surgery thru case studies
Step by step - UBE cervical foraminotomy (video lecture)
Step by step - UCBD for stenosis (video lecture)
Step by step - UBE laminoplasty (video lecture)
Cervical Laminoforaminotomy Using UBE: Step-by-Step Technique and Danger Zones

Moderators: Josh Piercy /
Pung Hung Wu
Farhan Altaaf
Don Park
John Choi
Park Hyun Jin
Kim Ju Eon

Ashwin Khandage

Coffee Break

Advanced Applications of UBE Surgery

Thoracic decompression surgery - case studies
Tumour surgery thru UBE - next frontier
Navigation/Robotic endoscopic surgery developments
Long term outcomes of UBE surgery - ASD, Recurrences, Failures
Failed UBE cases - what mistakes people made, make and should avoid
Managing patients expectations and cooling the "hype"

Moderators: Farhan Altaf
/ Ashwin Khandage
Pung Hung Wu
Park Sang Min
Seong Yi
Park Hyun Jin
Jeong-Yoon Park
Mitch Hansen

Closing Remarks

John Choi

Additional Training Opportunity

We will be using UpSurgeOn spine models to simulate cervical and lumbar spine endoscopy procedures. These models will bring the "living patient experience" to participants. It allows for the performance of procedures such as discectomy, decompression and fusion. These models have been used worldwide by endoscopic spine societies with excellent feedback on their ability to provide a real-life experience for spinal endoscopy training.

You will also have the opportunity to register to undergo training using the cervical spine and lumbar spine models throughout the day.

Networking Reception - Sponsored Drinks & Finger Food



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Morning Schedule: Basic Lumbar / thoracic approaches

0800 – 0830

- *Introduction, safety brief*
- *Revise UBE setup, triangulation, fluid management, and portal placement principles on lumbar models*
- *Meet supervisors and divide groups*

Cadavers 1-4

0830 – 1000 | Fundamentals and Instrumentation

- Optics: 0-degree vs. 30-degree endoscopes.
- Triangulation: Portal placement and fluid dynamics.
- Instruments: Radiofrequency probes and specialized burrs.
- Safety: Managing pump pressure and vision.

1000 – 1130 | Unilateral Laminotomy (Ipsilateral Decompression)

- Targeting: Flavectomy window and lamina borders.
- Bone work: Inferior laminotomy and cranial extension.
- Ligamentum flavum: Splitting, peeling, and resecting.
- Milestones: Visualizing the lateral recess margins.

1130 – 1300 | Contralateral Decompression (Over-the-Top Approach)

- Base view: Base of the spinous process.
- Angulation: Endoscope tilt for contralateral viewing.
- Bone resection: Contralateral sublamina bone removal.
- Flavectomy: Decompressing the contralateral lateral recess

Cadaver 5 & 6 Advanced

0830 – 1000 Advanced Cervical UBE Decompression

- Cervical portals: Posterior cervical spine landmarks.
- Foraminotomy: Keyhole foraminotomy for radiculopathy.
- Laminoplasty: Bilateral decompression via unilateral approach.
- Cord safety: Epidural venous plexus bleeding control.

1030 -1130 Thoracic Decompression and Stenosis

- Thoracic anatomy: Rib head and lamina junctions.
- Myelopathy: Safe decompression for thoracic stenosis.
- Ossification: Managing ossified ligamentum flavum.
- Handling: Avoiding cord compression during instruments.

1130 – 1300 Endoscopic Lumbar Interbody Fusion (UBE-LIF/TLIF) [1, 2, 3]

- Endplate prep: Scrapers, burrs, and visual verification.
- Trialling: Serial dilation and height restoration.
- Grafting: Large-volume bone graft delivery techniques.
- Cage insertion: Specialized expandable and static cages.

1300 – 1400 | Lunch break and faculty-led discussion

Afternoon Schedule: Advanced Thoracic & Cervical Approaches

Cadavers 1-4

1400-1530 Lumbar Discectomy

- Identification: Dural sac and traversing root.
- Retraction: Safe axillary and shoulder mobilization.
- Annulotomy: Incision types and fragment retrieval.
- Checklist: Probing the hidden disc space.

1530 – 1700 Foraminotomy and Far-Lateral Decompression

- Anatomy: Extraforaminal zone and pars interarticularis.
- Portal shift: Triangle for far-lateral access.
- Resection: Tip of the superior articular process.
- Exiting root: Decompression along the nerve path.

1700 – 1830 Complication Management and Review

- Dural tears: Patching, sealing, and conversion criteria.
- Bleeding: Bone wax usage and radiofrequency control.
- Assessment: Independent navigation of basic portals.
- Integration: Ergonomics and operating room setup workflow.

Cadaver 5& 6 Advanced

1400 – 1530 Revision Surgery and Scar Tissue

- Landmarks: Navigating distorted anatomy and bone landmarks.
- Dissection: Separating epidural scar from dura.
- Strategies: Sparing virgin bone for orientation.
- Adhesiolysis: Mechanical vs. fluid-jet tissue separation.

1530 – 1700 Complex Pathology and Tumor Biopsy

- High-grade migration: Migrated discs (cranial/caudal/posterior).
- Cysts: Excision of synovial and ligamentous cysts.
- Biopsy: Endoscopic-guided target biopsy for lesions.
- Far-migrated fragments: Multi-portal switching for access

1700 – 1830 High-Level Complications and Repair

- Dural repair: Endoscopic suturing and clip application.
- Fluid management: Preventing intracranial hypertension signs.
- Massive haemorrhage: Troubleshooting major venous sinus tears.
- Salvage protocols: Structural reconstruction and conversion keys.

1830 – 1900| Program wrap-up, Q&A, and certificate distribution