

Rotary District 9685 Vocational Excellence Awards 2024

Associate Professor Lukas Kairaitis

Associate Professor Lukas Kairaitis is an academic nephrologist with extensive clinical experience and a track record of achievements in the space of clinical and educational service development. His career goals are to provide optimal clinical outcomes for his patients both now and in the future through application, mentorship, research, and education.

He has made substantial contributions in the areas of clinical service planning and delivery during his fifteen years working as a Nephrologist in Western Sydney. Key achievements in this space have included the development of the Blacktown Hospital Renal Unit from a Level 2 to a Level 6 renal service incorporating inpatient dialysis and nephrology advanced training. He has advocated for, and participated in, service planning for additional renal services in Western Sydney and has contributed heavily to the planning and design of five separate haemodialysis facilities during this period.

At a national and international level, he has participated in multiple working groups aimed at promotion of safe evidence-based renal care.

With the establishment of a Medical School at The University of Western Sydney, he was appointed as the Sub-Dean of the Blacktown-Mt Druitt Clinical School in 2008. In this role he played a significant part in the development of the hospital as one of the two lead sites for undergraduate medical student education and was instrumental in the development of teaching spaces and expertise at the hospital, including the planning and design of the clinical school and research building on the hospital campus.

Throughout his career he has contributed significantly to post-graduate and undergraduate Medical Education both informally and through formal positions with WSU and as the Director of Physician Education at Blacktown Hospital. Key achievements have included redesign of the undergraduate renal curriculum and innovations in student assessment. He was responsible for the establishment of Blacktown Hospital as an examination site for the Royal Australasian College of Physicians Divisional Clinical Examination and during his tenure has advocated successfully for an increase in the hospital Basic Physician Training workforce from 8 to 17 positions.