



### Mr Leo Pinczewski, MBBS, FRACS, Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, North Sydney Orthopaedic & Sports Medicine Centre, Sydney, Australia

Leo Pinczewski was educated at Newcastle Boys' High School in New South Wales, Australia. The younger son of a migrant family who were survivors of the Holocaust, he won a scholarship to study medicine at Sydney University. Graduating in 1975, he entered the Australian Orthopaedic Association Registrar Training Program in 1979. He gained his FRACS (Orth) in 1983 after spending a Fellowship year in rheumatoid

surgery at Princess Margaret Rose Orthopaedic Hospital in Edinburgh. He was to commence his Orthopaedic career at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital in 1984, but the Surgeon's dispute with the State and serendipity steered him towards knee surgery. The newly arrived operating arthroscope allowed him to develop, perfect and teach his techniques for arthroscopic anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction.

The ABC Travelling Fellowship in 1992 opened his eyes to the concept of a research data base to validate his newly developed techniques. His surgical registry was established in 1992 and continues to this day, prospectively recording more than 15 000 procedures in over 13 000 patients. His research has resulted in over 50 published articles and has been recognised with numerous awards including 3 Evelyn Hamilton Trust Memorial prizes for best scientific presentations at the Australian Orthopaedic Association Annual Scientific Meetings and the inaugural Australian Orthopaedic Association Research Award. His favourite catch phrase has become "nothing ruins a good operation ... like follow-up".

In 2009 he achieved the significant milestone of performing his 10 000th anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction. In 2011 he was the first orthopaedic surgeon to receive the Royal Australian College of Surgeons Award for Excellence in Surgery. These achievements have all been performed within a private hospital, without the support of a University department. He received his first Academic appointment in 2011 as Associate Professor of Orthopaedic at Notre Dame University Medical School, Sydney Australia.

Leo Pinczewski is the lead author of a Knee paper in the May 2012 issue of the Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery [Br]:

[The outcome at 15 years of endoscopic anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction using hamstring tendon autograft for 'isolated' anterior cruciate ligament rupture](#)

H. E. Bourke, D. J. Gordon, L. J. Salmon, A. Waller, J. Linklater, and L. A. Pinczewski  
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