

Max Esser



Industry profile: Orthopaedic surgeon

Max Esser (left)

Orthopaedic surgeon Max Esser took some time out of his busy schedule to talk to Limbs 4 Life about his profession.

I practice as an Orthopaedic Surgeon at the Alfred Hospital and have a private practice at Cabrini Hospital.

I have had a long interest in the treatment of injuries and fractures and have had extensive training in the surgical techniques required to reconstruct these demanding fractures.

I am particularly interested in the treatment of fractures of the pelvis and acetabulum. The acetabulum is the socket the hip joint is involved in.

I enjoy teaching medical students

and training surgeons and have co-authored a book on the management of fractures with a Senior Orthopaedic Surgeon, Mr. Ronald McRae in Glasgow. This book is called 'Practical Fracture Treatment'. It is a book which is helpful for those people who are not Orthopaedic Surgeons, such as Accident and Emergency Room Physicians, Physiotherapist, training Medical Students, Nurses and Surgeons.

In the course of my work at Alfred Hospital I have been on call for those patients who have been victims of motor car accidents and other severe accidents.

Often the surgical procedure takes a considerable amount of planning and many patients require multiple operations in

order to achieve the best possible outcome considering the severity of the injury.

In order to achieve this, a really well prepared and successful team is essential.

Outcomes with new techniques and evolving methods require not only a committed surgeon but also a well motivated and co-operative team.

At the Alfred Hospital we have this combination, and also excellent support from many of the para medical groups such as physiotherapists and the orthotic technicians.

I feel that I am extraordinarily lucky to be able to be working as an Orthopaedic Surgeon. I find that



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despite the severity of the injury, the surgical procedures often result in quite a good outcome for patients and the satisfaction of having a happy patient, despite the severity of the injuries is a really satisfying feeling.

I personally feel that the demands and the creative thought processes that are necessary in reconstructing patients with severe injuries are more than compensated for by grateful patients who are functioning as well as they possibly can considering their presenting problem.

I feel that my work as an Orthopaedic Surgeon is vindicated by the success and motivation of my patients.

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