

RACS Advisory Group on Artificial Intelligence in Surgery

Summary of terms of reference

Purpose and scope

Reporting to the RACS Education Committee and Professional Standards and Fellowship Services Committee, the Advisory Group is established to guide RACS in becoming a leader in surgical standards, professionalism, and education in the context of AI and machine learning. Key focus areas include:

- **Scope definition:** AI applications in surgery, patient management, education, decision support, and research.
- **Education and training:** development of standards for AI-related surgical education.
- **Practice standards:** credentialling, compliance, and ethical guidelines for AI use.
- **Advocacy:** promoting safety, ethics, and equitable access to AI-enabled surgical care.

Responsibilities

Members are expected to act in RACS's best interests, manage conflicts, and contribute expertise. Specific duties include:

- **Scope definition:** identify trends, risks, and clinical-AI interactions.
- **Education and training:** recommend curriculum, competencies, and training requirements.
- **Practice standards:** define credentialling, CPD, and facility prerequisites.
- **Advocacy:** support ethical AI adoption and equitable access.

Composition

- Up to nine members selected via expression of interest (EOI).
- Roles include Chair, AI/Data Science Advisor, Legal Advisor, Fellows with various focuses (education, governance, rural, general AI), PSFSC/FSC member, RACSTA representative, and an industry representative.
- Diversity in specialty, geography (Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand), career stage and gender is considered.
- Chair may co-opt additional members.