

Division:	Fellowship Experience	Ref. No.	TOR-3127
Department:	Professional Standards		
Title:	Surgical Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Committee		

1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy describes the Terms of Reference for the committee responsible for providing advice and recommendations on matters relating to surgical gastrointestinal endoscopy in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.

2. KEYWORDS

Gastrointestinal endoscopy, colonoscopy, ERCP, training, standards, recertification, advocacy.

3. BODY OF POLICY

3.1. Objectives

- 3.1.1. To develop gastrointestinal endoscopy standards of practice.
- 3.1.2. To advise RACS Training Boards, Committees and external organisations involved with gastrointestinal endoscopy training on standards of education and training of endoscopists.
- 3.1.3. To support a competency-based recertification model for surgical gastrointestinal endoscopy in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.
- 3.1.4. To provide oversight of service delivery standards for surgeons in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.
- 3.1.5. To advocate for improved outcomes regarding access to training for Surgical Trainees and Specialist International Medical Graduates (SIMGs), in cancer screening and other issues relating to surgical gastrointestinal endoscopy.
- 3.1.6. Provide reference and support for surgeon representatives on colonoscopy and bowel cancer screening related organisations and agencies

3.2. Duties and Responsibilities

- 3.2.1. Provide a central RACS co-ordination point for matters relating to gastrointestinal endoscopy.
- 3.2.2. Develop position statements on surgical gastrointestinal endoscopy.
- 3.2.3. Advise Council and RACS Boards/Committees on matters relating to surgical gastrointestinal endoscopy in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.
- 3.2.4. Support a competency-based recertification model
- 3.2.5. Develop and implement a methodology to ensure alignment and comparability of existing logbooks for SET/SIMGs and Fellows.
- 3.2.6. Engage with Government and external stakeholders to ensure that RACS is proactively leading the development of standards relating to surgical gastrointestinal endoscopy.
- 3.2.7. Liaise with the peak bodies and organisations in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand engaged in aspects of endoscopy.

3.3. Powers

- 3.3.1. The SGEC is authorised to make recommendations to the Professional Standards and Fellowship Services Committee in relation to matters relating to surgical endoscopy in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.

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3.4. Composition and Size

3.4.1. Membership shall consist of:

- A College Councillor, nominated Council
- A General Surgery (Australia) representative, jointly nominated by the Australian Board in General Surgery and General Surgeons Australia.
- A General Surgery (Aotearoa New Zealand) representative, jointly nominated by the Aotearoa New Zealand Board in General Surgery and the New Zealand Association of General Surgeons.
- A Paediatric Surgery representative nominated by the Committee of Paediatric Surgery and the Australian and New Zealand Association of Paediatric Surgeons
- A Colorectal Surgery representative, nominated by the Colorectal Surgical Society of Australia and New Zealand (CSSANZ).
- A Colon and Rectal Section (RACS) representative
- A Rural Surgery representative, nominated by the RACS Rural Surgery Section.
- An Australian and Aotearoa New Zealand Gastric and Oesophageal Surgery Association (AANZGOSA) representative
- A Recertification in Colonoscopy Conjoint Committee (RCCC) representative
- A Conjoint Committee for Recognition of Training in Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (Australia) representative
- A Conjoint Committee for Recognition of Training in Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (Aotearoa New Zealand) or New Zealand Society of Gastroenterology (NZSG) representative
- A National Endoscopy Training Initiative (NETI) (Australia) representative
- An Australian and Aotearoa New Zealand Hepatic, Pancreatic and Biliary Association (AANZHPBA) representative
- A Renewal of Endoscopy Skills (REST) Working Party member
- A Younger Fellow representative
- A Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Trainee Association (RACSTA) representative

3.4.2. The Chair will be elected by the membership of the Committee and approved by the Professional Standards Committee.

3.4.3. The Committee may co-opt other Fellows as required.

3.4.4. Members shall be elected for a term of three years, to a maximum of three terms.

3.5. Meetings

The committee shall meet three times per year by teleconference, with additional teleconferences or face-to-face meetings as required.

3.6. Quorum

A quorum shall be a voting majority of the membership of the committee.

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3.7. Accountability and Reporting Structure

- 3.7.1. The Committee is accountable to Council via the Professional Standards and Fellowship Services Committee, and its meetings will be recorded in minutes. Additional reporting may also be provided to the Education Committee.

4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

No documents associated with this policy.

Approver Professional Standards and Fellowship Services Committee
Authoriser Council