1. **PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

This policy governs the awarding of the RACS Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Medal. It covers the application and selection criteria as well as the frequency and conditions of the Medal.

2. **KEYWORDS**

Award, Indigenous Health, Indigenous Health Committee, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Medal, Australia

3. **BODY OF POLICY**

3.1. **Background**

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Medal acknowledges distinguished service by an Australian or New Zealand Fellow of the College to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health.

3.2. **Criteria for Award**

The award is made to a Fellow who has demonstrated excellence through leadership, practice, advocacy, community engagement, education or research of lasting and significant contribution to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health.

3.3. **Frequency and Presentation**

3.3.1. One Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Medal may be awarded each year.

3.3.2. Nominations are to be called for on an annual basis by the Indigenous Health Committee. It is not necessarily awarded annually, but only if a suitable candidate is recommended by the Indigenous Health Committee and approved by the Professional Development and Standards Board.

3.3.3. It is open to a Fellow in any Specialty and the nomination may come from any individual Fellow, surgical society, regional committee of the College, the Indigenous Health Committee, or the Indigenous community.

3.3.4. The Award will normally be presented at the Annual Scientific Congress (ASC) or at another location in consultation with the ASC Secretariat, the Indigenous Health Committee and the recipient of the award.

3.4. **Nominations**

3.4.1. Nominations for a RACS Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Medal shall contain a curriculum vitae and details of how the nominee meets the criteria for the award. Nominations without this information will be returned to the nominator for further documentation.

3.4.2. The Indigenous Health Committee will consider nominations for the RACS Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Medal and recommend to the Professional Development and Standards Board to whom the medal should be awarded.

3.4.3. After approval by the Professional Development and Standards Board the name of the recommended nominee will be presented to Council for noting.
3.5. The Award

The Award is in the form of a bronze medal.

3.6. Financial implications for recipient of the Award

As this award is normally presented at the ASC

3.6.1. Travel and Accommodation are not provided by the College and costs will not be paid or reimbursed by the College.

3.6.2. If being presented at the ASC, registration costs for the recipient will be paid by the Indigenous Health Committee for the ASC at which the presentation is made.

4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Procedure RACS Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Medal

Approver
Professional Development and Standards Board

Authoriser
Council