

Division:	External Affairs	Ref. No.	EXA-RGH-042
Department:	Global Health		
Title:	RACS Assistance and Support in Developing International Surgical Training Programs		

1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy governs the consideration and approval of requests for assistance and support from RACS in the development of surgical training programs internationally, particularly in developing countries.

2. KEYWORDS

Fellowship, Training, Fellows, Aid

3. BODY OF POLICY

3.1. Background

RACS has committed to promote international development and capacity strengthening activities, particularly within Asia and the Pacific. RACS is frequently approached by individuals and organisations to support and assist in the development of training programs and/or resources for the the training of specialist surgeons off-shore, particularly in countries where RACS has an active engagement in aid programs.

Limiting engagement to being with in-country colleges (or equivalent bodies) and jurisdictions will ensure that RACS participation does not create tension with pre-existing providers and consequently limits any reputational risks.

3.2. Proposals for Engagement with RACS

Requests for support and assistance should be in writing and addressed to the President. The mandatory criteria for consideration by RACS are:

- Evidence that the partnership is with another specialist college or an equivalent in-country institution, or the partner country government, to ensure that the introduction of new training programs does not undermine existing country programs; and
- a RACS Fellow available as Project Lead to champion the project and contribute their educational expertise in the adaptation of materials for local use.

Assessment

In considering whether to support a request Council will seek the input of the Education, Fellowship and Global Health Portfolios and will assess:

- For programs based on the SET curriculum, the level of support from the relevant partnering specialty society (as required by the agreements with the societies)
- The contribution of the program to the development of long term capacity for in-country training and a sustainable health service
- That the project has an adequate source of funding available. Funds may be available from the requestor, or where considered appropriate by RACS, from an internal fund (Global Health budget or other available funding).
- For skills courses: that a Fellow (or Fellows) volunteers to contribute

Approved By:	Director, External Affairs	Original Issue:	June 2017
Document Owner:	Manager, RACS Global Health	Version:	1
		Approval Date:	June 2017
		Review Date:	June 2020

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educational expertise to assist in the delivery of an initial 2-3 courses including train the trainer courses in the local environment to support quality assurance and sustainability. Ongoing mentoring and support for leadership development for the local instructor group will be crucial to ensure sustainability.

3.3. Terms of Approval

If approved by Council, support is contingent on:

- Intellectual property is retained by RACS and licenced to the requesting party. The licence will not allow the requesting party to share or sell the intellectual property without the permission of RACS. Permission would be considered on request, and may include financial compensation.
- That a formal agreement is put in place with the partner institution to cover the arrangement; and
- Agreement by the recipient institution to acknowledge RACS in all training materials.

4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Counter Terrorism in International Activities Policy

Agreement with Partners in RACS Global Health Activities Policy

Agreement with Partners in RACS Global Health Activities Procedure

Child Protection Policy

Environment and Waste Management Policy

Fraud Policy

Gender Equality Policy

Disability Inclusiveness Policy

Handling Complaints to the International Development Program Policy

Approver PDSB
Authoriser Council

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