1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE
This policy governs the awarding of the ESR Hughes Award. It covers the application and selection criteria as well as the value, frequency and conditions of the Award.

2. KEYWORDS
Awards Committee, Awards, ESR Hughes Award, Annual Scientific Congress

3. BODY OF POLICY
3.1. Background
3.1.1. Inaugurated in 1998, the ESR Hughes Award was created in recognition of the outstanding contributions to surgery by Sir Edward Hughes
3.1.2. Sir Edward (Bill) Hughes CBE was President of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) 1975-1978. He was a world-renowned colorectal surgeon. He studied at Melbourne University and went to London to further his studies at St Mark’s Hospital in 1948. On his return to Melbourne he worked at the Royal Children’s Hospital and the Royal Melbourne Hospital. He became Censor-in-Chief in 1972, and set about a major restructure of the College’s teaching programs. He took a leading role in establishing links between RACS and surgeons in South-East Asia. During his term as Censor-in-chief the various specialties which we know today began to emerge. He was the foundation Professor of Surgery at Monash University.
3.1.3. The award is to recognise distinguished contributions to surgery by Fellows of the College and others.

3.2. Presentation
The award is normally presented at the Annual Scientific Congress (ASC).

3.3. Criteria for Award
The sole criterion for the ESR Hughes Award shall be distinguished contributions to surgery.

3.4. Nominations
3.4.1. A nomination for the ESR Hughes Award (Distinguished Award) shall be made in confidence in writing to the Chair of the Awards Committee by at least two Fellows of RACS at least six (6) weeks prior to the Awards Committee meeting and contain biographical details, information on appointments, membership of learned societies (and office held), and a list of publications or a CV.
3.4.2. Each nominator is required to substantiate the recommendation with a demonstrable reason by addressing the criteria for the award. Nominations without this additional background information will be returned to the nominator for further documentation.
3.4.3. After approval by the Awards Committee, the name of the recommended nominee will be presented to Council for final approval.

3.5. The Award
The Award consists of a medal bearing on its obverse a representation of the RACS Coat of Arms.
3.6. **Financial implications for the Award recipient**

As this award is normally presented at the ASC it is important to note that:

3.6.1. Travel and accommodation are not provided by RACS and costs will not be paid or reimbursed by RACS.

3.6.2. If being presented at the ASC, registration and banquet costs for the recipient and partner will be paid by RACS for the ASC at which the presentation is made.

4. **ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS**

ESR Hughes Award procedure REL-PCS-013

**Approver:** Awards Committee  
**Authoriser:** Council