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| Policy     | Operations                               | Ref. No. | REL-PCS-033 |
| Department | President & Council Support              |          |             |
| Title      | Sir Alan Newton Surgical Education Medal |          |             |

## 1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy governs the awarding of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) Sir Alan Newton Surgical Education Medal. It covers the application and selection criteria as well as the value, frequency and conditions of the Award.

## 2. KEYWORDS

Awards Committee, Awards, Surgical Education, Medal, Sir Alan Newton, Academy of Surgical Educators, Annual Scientific Congress.

## 3. BODY OF POLICY

### 3.1. Background

3.1.1 Sir Hibbert (Alan) Stephen Newton was an acclaimed thyroid surgeon and dynamic teacher dedicated to raising the standards of surgery and surgical education. He was a foundation Fellow in 1927, Secretary and Treasurer from 1929-1933, Censor in Chief from 1933-1943 and ultimately President from 1943-1945.

3.1.2 The Sir Alan Newton Surgical Education Medal was created in memory of the late Sir Alan Newton to recognise a distinguished and substantial contribution to surgical education over a prolonged period of time.

3.1.3 The award is made to an individual Fellow.

### 3.2. Presentation and Frequency

3.2.1 The presentation is normally made at the Annual Scientific Congress (ASC).

3.2.2 Nominations are called for annually. However, the Medal is only awarded as appropriate. If no applicant meets the criteria in a particular year, the Medal will not be awarded in that year.

### 3.3. Criteria for Award

Criteria for the Sir Alan Newton Surgical Education Medal are:

- Fellow of RACS
- Demonstrated leadership in RACS and/or health care organisations related to surgical education.
- Significant contributions to the body of knowledge on surgical education.
- Role models the professional characteristics of a surgical educator.
- Has displayed substantial dedication of time and effort to surgical education over a prolonged period of time.

### 3.4. Nominations

3.4.1 The Sir Alan Newton Surgical Education Medal is a Singular Award and a nomination can be accepted for discussion at any Awards Committee meeting but will usually only be approved and presented to Council for final approval at the October Awards Committee meeting held during Council Week.

3.4.2 A nomination for the Sir Alan Newton Surgical Education Medal may be made in confidence in writing to the Chair of the Awards Committee by the Chair of the Academy of Surgical Educators Committee or by two Councillors at least six (6) weeks prior to an Awards Committee meeting and shall be supported by the nominee's CV, which shall contain biographical details and information demonstrating how the nominee meets the criteria for the award.

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3.4.3 If approved by the Awards Committee, the name of the recommended nominee will be presented to Council for final approval. Approval by three quarters of Councillors present and voting must be received.

### 3.5. The Award

The award is in the form of a medal. Costs associated with production of the medal are covered by the Awards budget.

### 3.6. Financial implications for the recipient of the Award

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 a RACS function, the registration of the event and banquet costs for the recipient and partner will be paid by RACS.

## 4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Sir Alan Newton Surgical Education Medal – Academy of Surgical Educators Committee Nomination Procedure

Sir Alan Newton Surgical Education Medal procedure: REL-PCS-027.

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