

<b>Division:</b>	<b>Fellowship Engagement</b>	<b>Ref. No.</b>	<b>TOR-3127</b>
<b>Department:</b>	<b>Professional Standards</b>		
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Surgical Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Committee</b>		

## 1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

## 2. KEYWORDS

Gastrointestinal endoscopy, 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 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 New Zealand.
- 3.1.4. To provide oversight of service delivery standards for surgeons in Australia and New Zealand.
- 3.1.5. To advocate for improved outcomes regarding access to training for SET Trainees and International Medical Graduates (IMGs), 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 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/IMGs 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 Gastroenterological Society of Australia (GESA), NZ Gastroenterology Society, and other organisations engaged in aspects of endoscopy.

### 3.3. Powers

- 3.3.1. The Surgical Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Committee is authorised to make recommendations to the Professional Development and Standards Board in relation to matters relating to surgical endoscopy in Australia and New Zealand.

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### 3.4. Composition and Size

3.4.1. Membership shall consist of:

- A College Councillor, nominated by Professional Development and Standards Board
- A General Surgery (Australia) representative, jointly nominated by the Board in General Surgery and General Surgeons Australia.
- A General Surgery (New Zealand) representative, jointly nominated by the New Zealand Board in General Surgery and the New Zealand Association of General Surgeons.
- A Paediatric Surgery representative nominated by the Board of Paediatric Surgery and the Australian and New Zealand Association of Paediatric Surgeons
- A Colorectal Surgery representative, jointly nominated by the RACS Colon and Rectal Surgery Section and the Colorectal Surgical Society of Australia and New Zealand.
- One Rural Surgery representative, nominated by the RACS Rural Surgery Section.
- A Representative of The Australian and New Zealand Gastric and Oesophageal Surgery Association (ANZGOSA)

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

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.

### 3.7. Accountability and Reporting Structure

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

## 4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

No documents associated with this policy.

**Approver** Professional Development and Standards Board  
**Authoriser** Council

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