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| Division: | Education and Training Administration | Ref. No. | ETA-SET-044 |
| Department: | Surgical Training | | |
| Title: | Training Requirements and Curriculum Structure | | |

1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Specialty training boards are responsible for developing the curriculum of the Surgical Education and Training program to transform an appointed trainee from a novice to a competent and proficient surgeon, as assessed against the nine RACS competencies.

2. KEYWORDS

Surgical Education and Training; curriculum; competencies; assessment; courses

3. SPECIALTY CURRICULUM

3.1. The curriculum of the SET program is based on educating a trainee to be competent or proficient in each of the nine RACS competencies of:

- Medical Expertise
- Judgement – Clinical Decision Making
- Technical Expertise
- Professionalism and Ethics
- Health Advocacy
- Communication
- Collaboration and Teamwork
- Management and Leadership
- Scholarship and Teaching

3.2. The curriculum for each specialty specifies the scope of surgical practice for that specialty and the specialty specific content for the assessment of the nine RACS Competencies.

3.3. The Fellowship Examination (FEX) is a mandatory component of the SET program and is the major summative assessment of the competencies of Medical Expertise and Judgement – Clinical Decision Making.

3.4. The curriculum must incorporate formative and summative assessment throughout the training program.

3.5. Summative assessment determines the progress of trainees in the SET program.

3.6. The training program must include summative assessment of the trainee's knowledge of surgical sciences and their application of this knowledge to clinical practice relevant to surgery. This may be assessed in selecting trainees for the program.

3.7. The following courses must be completed by all trainees, and specialty training boards may specify the timeframes in which they are to be completed:

3.7.1. Emergency Management of Severe Trauma (EMST)

3.7.2. Care of the Critically Ill Surgical Patient (CCrISP®)

3.8. The following courses are recommended as elements of a training program and may be mandated by specialty training boards:

3.8.1. Australia and New Zealand Surgical Skills Education and Training (ASSET)

3.8.2. Critical Literature Evaluation and Research (CLEAR)

3.8.3. Training in Professional Skills (TIPS)

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4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Becoming a competent and proficient surgeon: Training Standards for the Nine RACS Competencies

Recognition of Prior Learning policy

Specialty Training Board regulations

Specialty Curriculum

5. GLOSSARY

Formative Assessment All assessments that allow a trainee to reflect on their progress and to modify learning activities to aid attainment of the requisite standard.

Summative Assessment Assessment that evaluates learning at the end of an instructional unit or period by comparing it against a predetermined standard or benchmark.

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