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## **Policy on Emergency Medicine Course Requirements**

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### **1. Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to outline:

- the emergency medicine course requirements for FACRRM training
- outline the standards and accreditation process for approval of such emergency medicine courses.

### **2. Related Documentation**

This policy should be read with reference to the following related documents:

- ACRRM Primary Curriculum; and
- Fellowship: Vocational Training Handbook.

### **3. Policy**

3.1 The Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM) requires all registrars attain comprehensive skills and competencies in emergency medicine that will allow individuals to lead and manage emergency care in a rural or remote setting.

3.2 The specific learning outcomes relating to emergency medicine are outlined in the ACRRM Primary Curriculum. They stipulate that registrars must be able to competently:

1. undertake initial assessment and triage of patients with acute or life threatening conditions;
2. stabilise critically ill patients and provide primary and secondary care;
3. provide definitive emergency resuscitation and management across the lifespan in keeping with clinical need, own capabilities and available services;
4. perform required emergency procedures and courses;
5. arrange and/or perform emergency patient transport or evacuation when needed;
6. demonstrate resourcefulness in knowing how to access and use available resources;
7. communicate effectively at a distance with consulting or receiving clinical personnel;
8. participate in disaster planning and implementation of disaster plans, and post incident analysis and debriefing; and
9. provide inter-professional team leadership in emergency care that includes quality assurance and risk management assessment in the rural and remote setting.

3.3 Although registrars may use a wide range of methods to obtain the requisite skills, knowledge and experience in emergency medicine, ACRRM does specifically require individuals to successfully complete a minimum of two\* approved Emergency Medicine Courses as a mandatory part of their training regime (\*specific details outlined in Registrar Requirements below). The purpose of attendance at emergency medicine courses is to

augment training posts and other education with an intensive period of skills development and independent assessment of key competencies.

3.4 Registrars enrolling in ACRRM vocational training from 2009 onwards must successfully complete **either** two accredited Tier 1 courses **or** one accredited Tier 1 course and two accredited Tier 2 courses.

3.5 Registrars who enrolled in ACRRM vocational training prior to 2009 must successfully complete two emergency courses. While it is preferred that they are accredited Tier 1 courses this is not a requirement.

#### **4. Accreditation of Emergency Medicine Courses**

4.1 ACRRM will assess and accredit courses for the purposes of this policy on the basis of meeting one of the following sets of criteria.

4.1.1 Tier 1 courses must be:

1. highly relevant emergency medicine content applicable in a rural context;
2. not less than 12 hours duration over two days;
3. rigorously assessed using MCQ, skills station and scenario assessment; and
4. recognised at a national or international level.

4.1.2 Tier 2 courses must be:

1. highly relevant emergency medicine content applicable in a rural context;
2. not less than 8 hours duration, usually completed in a single day;
3. taught using interactive learning techniques, including simulation; and
4. recognised at a state or national level.

4.2 Applications for accreditation of emergency medicine courses must be made in writing to the College and include comprehensive information on:

- course content;
- duration and program format;
- teaching methods;
- assessment requirements and techniques; and
- level of national or international recognition.

Applications will be assessed and classified by the ACRRM Vocational Training Committee. Appeals against outcomes can be made in writing to the ACRRM College Censor.

4.3 International recognition is defined as the identical course content, duration, and teaching and assessment methods used for the same course in other countries, e.g. The Early Management of Severe Trauma course.

4.4 A list of accredited courses and their classifications will be circulated to Training Providers. These will also be available on the College website (see Vocational Training).

4.5 The ACRRM Censor may award retrospective approval of Emergency Medicine Courses attended by registrars prior to their enrolment in the ACRRM vocational training program.

Approved :	June 2010
Review Date:	June 2013
Revision History:	February 2009