



# Australasian Chapter of Addiction Medicine Committee By-law

## BY-LAW PURSUANT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF BOARD COMMITTEES

<b>Area of College</b>	Member Engagement & Support
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<b>References/Legislation</b>	<i>Corporations Act 2001 (Cth)</i>
<b>Associated RACP Documents</b>	Governance of College Body By-law, Appointments to College Bodies Policy, RACP Constitution.
<b>Applicability</b>	Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand

*Note: This is a controlled document within the [RACP Policy Framework](#). The Framework covers all RACP policies, procedures, by-laws, terms of reference, guidelines, forms and so forth. Any new documents or amendments of existing documents or changes to approver, owner or area of college should be done in accordance with the RACP Policy Framework and Document Control (RACP Policy Framework) Procedure.*

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Board of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians has established the Australasian Chapter of Addiction Medicine Committee (the “College Body”). The Governance of College Bodies By-law sets out the general provisions for governance of College Bodies. Both the Governance of College Bodies By-law and this By-law govern the College Body.

## 2. PURPOSE

The purpose of the College Body is to act as the peak decision-making body for the Australasian Chapter of Addiction Medicine.

## 3. FUNCTIONS

The functions of the College Body include:

- a) supporting the professional careers of Fellows and trainees of the Chapter;
- b) working with other relevant appropriate College Bodies and staff in relation to:
  - i. education, training and assessment of trainees;
  - ii. education, continuing professional development and quality performance of Fellows;
  - iii. policy and advocacy;
  - iv. the assessment of overseas trained professionals;
  - v. research; and
  - vi. workforce,as each relates to addiction medicine;
- c) promoting and advancing the body of knowledge of addiction medicine; and
- d) acting as an authoritative source of advice within the College with regard to addiction medicine.

## 4. COMMITTEE PROHIBITIONS

The College Body must not:

- Enter into any agreement binding upon it or on the College; or
- Represent or imply in any way that the College Body is a body independent of the College.

## 5. MEMBER COMPOSITION

The Membership of the Committee shall comprise up to 14 members.

### 5.1. Ex-officio Members

- The Chair of the Training Committee in Addiction Medicine (TCAM).

### 5.2. Appointed Members

Up to one appointed member comprising:

- A representative of The Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol & other Drugs (APSAD). The holder of this position must be:
  - a Fellow of the Australasian Chapter of Addiction Medicine (FACHAM); and
  - the President, President-elect or Vice President of APSAD, or any other officeholder of APSAD approved by the Chapter Committee.

### 5.3. Elected Members

Up to 12 elected members, elected by the Members of the Australasian Chapter of Addiction Medicine:

- the President of the Chapter (to Chair)
- the President-elect of the Chapter
- one Fellow of the Chapter from Aotearoa New Zealand (to be referred to as the Branch Lead Convenor)
- one Fellow of the Chapter from each of the following Australian branches (to be referred to as the Branch Lead Convenors):
  - Australian Capital Territory
  - New South Wales
  - Northern Territory
  - Queensland
  - South Australia
  - Tasmania
  - Victoria
  - Western Australia
- one trainee of the Chapter elected by trainees.

#### **5.4. Co-opted members**

Co-opted members may be appointed for a particular purpose or term.

### **6. MEETING**

This section is to be read in conjunction with the Governance of College Bodies By-law.

#### **6.1. Number of Meetings**

The College Body shall hold a minimum of four meetings per calendar year and shall meet by teleconference, face to face or videoconference.

#### **6.2. Chair**

The Chair or their appointee will Chair all meetings.

#### **6.3. Quorum**

A quorum is one half of the total College Body membership.

#### **6.4. Voting**

Decisions will be made by consensus of the majority of members.

#### **6.5. Minutes**

The proceedings of all meetings of the Committee shall be recorded in the minutes.

#### **6.6. Secretariat**

Meeting agenda, supporting papers and minutes or outcomes will be provided prior to the date of the meeting.

#### **6.7. Committee Reviews**

The Committee are to undertake a skill and experience review annually.

The Committee are to review their performance against this By-law every two years.

### **7. REPORTING**

The College Body must report and make recommendations to the Adult Medicine Division Council as required.

The College Body is required to provide to the Adult Medicine Division Council each year:

- a new or updated work plan (work plans may be one, two or three years)
- a report against the preceding years' work plan.

### **8. REVIEW OF BY-LAW**

This By-law will be reviewed every three years.

## 9. DEFINITIONS

Term	Means
Board	The Board of Directors of The Royal Australasian College of Physicians.
College	The Royal Australasian College of Physicians, an incorporated body limited by guarantee ACN 000 039 047.
College Body	Has the same meaning as in the College Constitution.
Ex-officio	Has the same meaning as in the Governance of College Bodies By-law.
Fellow	Has the same meaning as in the Governance of College Bodies By-law.
Member	Has the same meaning as in the Governance of College Bodies By-law.
Parent Body	Has the same meaning as in the Governance of College Bodies By-law.
Trainee	Has the same meaning as in the College Constitution.

## 10. HISTORY

Commencement		
This By-law was approved by the Adult Medicine Division Council and commenced on 25 May 2013.		
Revision	Effective Date	Summary of Changes
1.0	25 May 2013	This By-law was approved by the Adult Medicine Division Council and commenced on 25 May 2013.
2.0	7 December 2021	This by-law was reviewed and approved by the AChAM Committee and AMD Council by December 2021.
3.0	27 July 2022	This by-law was added to a new template in May 2022, the content remained the same and AMDEX approved by July 2022.
4.0	2 April 2025	Added three elected members, to allow one Branch Lead Convenor per jurisdiction. The Chair of the Training Committee in Addition Medicine listed under ex-officio members rather than appointed. Minor formatting updates to match standard RACP template.