

Portfolio:	Office of the CEO	Ref. No.	POL-1055
Department:	President & Council Support		
Title:	Surgical Research Award		

1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy governs the awarding of a Surgical Research Award. It covers the application and selection criteria as well as the value, frequency and conditions of the Award.

2. KEYWORDS

Awards Committee, Awards, Surgical Research Award, Annual Scientific Congress

3. BODY OF POLICY

3.1. Background

3.1.1 Established in 2000 the RACS Surgical Research Award (*Distinguished Award*) is an honour created to recognise the contribution of a pre-eminent surgical scientist who has made significant contributions to surgical research.

3.1.2 The RACS Surgical Research Award is awarded to surgical scientists.

3.2. Presentation

The award is normally presented at the Annual Scientific Congress (ASC)

3.3. Criteria for Award

The following criteria must be taken into account when selecting an individual for nomination:

- The individual's participation as an invited faculty speaker, named lecturer, panel involvement etc. at international and national meeting of significance.
- The record of publications in refereed journals and the presentations the individual has made to major meetings and named lectures.
- Successful funding from major national bodies, both Australian and Aotearoa New Zealand (eg. NH&MRC, the Health Research Council of New Zealand, the Cancer Council Australia, the Heart Foundation) initiated by the nominee.
- The number of researchers whom the individual has supervised and the number of higher degree students the person has encouraged to go on with research themselves. While this does not specifically reflect the applicant's own research success, it does demonstrate the applicant's passing on their methodology and ethos to their successors.
- The impact of the nominee's research.

3.4. Nominations

3.4.1. The individual must be nominated by one of the following: at least two members of Council; the Academic Surgery Committee; a State or Territory Committee, The Aotearoa New Zealand National Committee, or a Specialty Committee/Board.

3.4.2. A nomination for a RACS Surgical Research Award shall be made in confidence in writing to the Chair of the Awards Committee at least four (4) weeks prior to an Awards Committee meeting for approval and recommendation to Council. The nomination shall be supported by the nominee's CV which should contain biographical details, information on appointments, membership of learned societies (and office held), and a list of publications.

3.4.3. Each nominator is required to substantiate the recommendation with a demonstrable reason for nomination by addressing the criteria for the award.

3.4.4. 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 at the Council Meeting must be received.

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3.5. The Award

The RACS Surgical Research Award is in the form of a Certificate.

3.6. Financial implications for the Award recipient

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 the ASC registration and banquet costs for the recipient and partner will be paid by RACS for the ASC at which the presentation is made.

4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

PRC-1005_Awards_Committee_Awards

Approver: Awards Committee
Authoriser: Council