

Short title: Further training advice BP

1. Purpose

The ANZCA professional document *PG44 Guideline on advice for retraining or further training in anaesthesia and pain medicine* has been developed to address the need for advice on further training for practitioners where there is a request for information on how to refresh knowledge and skills in specific practice areas in anaesthesia, pain medicine, perioperative medicine and related specialties, or where there is a desire for extending or changing a practitioner's scope of practice.

2. Background and discussion

The Australian Medical Council (AMC) is the accreditation authority for the medical profession under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law in Australia. It develops accreditation standards for medical programs and their education providers, with these standards being approved by the Medical Board of Australia. The Medical Council of New Zealand (MCNZ) works jointly with the AMC for Colleges that are in both Australia and New Zealand (ANZCA).

In the 2023 as part of a review by the AMC, with a focus on CPD, it was identified that requests for advice on further training were insufficient to meet AMC accreditation standards. ANZCA needed to develop a resource to fulfill the AMC criteria.

- 2.1 This assessment included requests for extending scope of practice to a new area for a practitioner (self-initiated, beyond the basic generalist practitioner).
- 2.2 Retraining initiated by a practitioner to refresh knowledge and skills in a particular area of practice [self-improvement, practice change, possibly guided by a suggestion from others (peers, managers), but where underperformance is not yet a formal concern].

In order to meet the criteria, it was agreed that the development of a professional document to support requests for retraining and/or further training be developed for participants in the ANZCA CPD program.

Related ANZCA documents

The PG44 guideline should be read in conjunction with the following:

Clinical care standards

[ANZCA standards for anaesthesia 2023](#)

[PS11\(PM\) Procedures in pain medicine clinical care standard](#)

[ANZCA standards for perioperative medicine 2023](#)

ANZCA and FPM CPD program

[ANZCA and FPM CPD Program handbook](#)

Professional documents

[PS02 Position statement on credentialling and defining the scope of clinical practice in anaesthesia, including background paper.](#)

[PG13\(PM\) Guideline on return to pain medicine practice for specialist pain medicine physicians](#), including [background paper](#).

[PG48 Guideline on the administrative management of substance use disorder in medical practitioners in anaesthesia and pain medicine](#), including [background paper](#)

[PG50\(A\) Guideline on return to anaesthesia practice for anaesthetists](#), including [background paper](#).

[PS57\(A\) Position statement on duties of specialist anaesthetists](#), including [background paper](#).

[PG65\(G\) Guideline for the performance assessment of a peer](#), including [background paper](#).

Regulations

ANZCA [Regulation 26](#) Standards of professional practice.

ANZCA [Regulation 27](#) Performance assessment of anaesthetists and pain medicine physicians.

ANZCA [Regulation 28](#) Removal of role holders, committee, subcommittee and working group members representatives.

Other resources

ANZCA. [Supporting professionalism and performance. A guide for anaesthetists and pain medicine physicians](#). 2024.

ANZCA. [Promoting good practice and managing poor performance in anaesthesia and pain medicine](#). 2017.

Royal College of Anaesthetists (RCOA). [Supporting and managing anaesthetists with performance concerns](#). 2024.

Regulatory bodies codes of conduct

Medical Board of Australia. [Good medical practice](#), the code of conduct for registered medical practitioners in Australia.

Medical Council of New Zealand. [Good medical practice](#), the code of conduct for registered medical practitioners in New Zealand.

Document Development Group

PG44 was developed by Peter Roessler, Lindy Roberts, Leona Wilson, David A Scott, and Melissa Viney with input from the CPD unit.

PG44 was revised in 2025 by Debra Devonshire, Michelle Mulligan and Babitha Kudakandira.

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