



ANZCA
FPM

CEO

Australian and New Zealand
College of Anaesthetists

2 April 2026

Deborah Frew
Executive Consultant, Miller Blue Group
Via e-mail: amc-nhpo-project@millerbluegroup.com.au

Dear Deborah,

AMC Guidance on Structured Learning – ANZCA feedback

Thank you for the opportunity for ANZCA to provide feedback on Attachment A: *Structured Learning – Guidance to Support the Assessment of Criterion 3.1.2 of the Model Standards for Specialist Medical College Accreditation of Training Settings* (updated guidance for second consultation).

ANZCA considers the revised guidance document acceptable. The intent and underlying principles provide sufficient flexibility to ensure applicability across jurisdictions, while still accommodating mandated (industrial obligations) structured teaching time where this applies.

It is noted, however, that guidance included in the first iteration of the document - which stated that *“where a college requires a trainee to attend/engage in certain structured learning opportunities, this will generally be included in that college’s College-Specific Requirements supporting the model standards for that training program”* - has been removed in the latest version. ANZCA’s feedback on the first iteration of the document highlighted that this guidance provided sufficient flexibility to support college-specific training requirements (for example, mandatory courses such as Advanced Life Support (ALS) and Can’t Intubate, Can’t Oxygenate (CICO)) and justified the importance of training settings supporting structured learning activities.

With the removal of this guidance, ANZCA would like to emphasise that colleges reserve the right to maintain college-specific training requirements, which would be mandatory for trainees to undertake and are considered as part of the four hours per week of structured learning time.

Furthermore, a common issue identified by accreditation committees and assessment teams is that while training settings may have a published formal teaching program, scheduled sessions are often cancelled at short notice due to clinical demands and staff shortages. While evidence of the planned teaching schedule and content is important, it is equally important to demonstrate what is actually delivered in practice.

ANZCA proposes that the following additions in **bold** be included in the ‘rosters/timetables’ component of Section 5: Evidence of structured learning opportunities:

*'These may be used as evidence that reasonable opportunities are provided within working hours to accommodate shift work patterns, and where trainees **and facilitators** are free from clinical duties. A **schedule of planned versus delivered structured learning opportunities provided by the training setting may also be used as evidence.**'*

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide feedback on the updated guidance.

Kind regards



Dr Lance Emerson
Chief Executive Officer