



## Partnership and Sponsorship POLICY

### 1. Purpose

Partnerships with and sponsorship provided by third parties are regarded as fundamental in extending educational, safety and quality and research opportunities to the fellowship, trainees and staff of the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA) and the Faculty of Pain Medicine (FPM).

The objectives of the Partnership and Sponsorship POLICY is to provide clarity and transparency around how the college engages with and manages opportunities relating to partnership and sponsorship and ensures that:

- Partnerships with and sponsorship from organisations provide real and tangible benefits to the college.
- Partnerships and sponsorships do not in any way compromise the integrity or reputation of the college or its fellows, trainees and staff.

All relationships with partners and sponsors exemplify and promote the vision of the college, its reputation and supports its strategic priorities.

This policy is supported by a Partnership and Sponsorship procedure. The policy and procedure documents complement each other and should be read in conjunction with one another.

### 2. Definitions

For the purpose of this policy a **partnership** is a general term meaning a mutually beneficial relationship between the college and another organisation, where the relationship is defined and governed by an agreement that specifies mutual objectives, responsibilities, inputs, benefits, and limitations. This agreement may be a legal contract or a memorandum of understanding depending on the level of risk identified and legal protection required by the parties.

A partnership may include philanthropic gifts (with conditions not exceeding the legal limitations of the definition of “gift” in the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997), commercial sponsorship, in-kind<sup>^</sup> or pro bono contributions and professional collaboration on a defined project or ongoing program.

<sup>^</sup> Sponsor agrees to provide goods, advice or services (value in kind) instead of cash as part of a sponsorship agreement

Partnerships may support one or more of the following:

- The delivery of educational events and activities.
- The work of the ANZCA Research Foundation; including the funding of research grants.
- Additional resources such as technology or resources that support the operation of the college.
- Specific FPM initiatives including the Better Pain Management Program and the opioid calculator.
- The delivery of college communications through clearly marked advertising.

A **sponsorship** is defined as a commercial arrangement involving payment of a fee in return for a commercial benefit or set of benefits of commercial value. This includes benefits relating to the advertising and exposure of corporate product and brands, and may apply to for-profit and not-for-profit organisations. (Sponsorships, in contrast to philanthropic gifts, are not exempt from the goods and services tax or other taxes.)

It is recognised that although a partnership may include philanthropy and commercial sponsorship components, these elements are legally mutually exclusive and require separate treatment.

### **3. Body of Policy**

#### **Principles**

The college engages with a broad range of organisations and on occasion individuals when fostering partnership and sponsorship opportunities.

All partnerships and sponsorships must be consistent with the following principles:

1. (To) Exemplify, reinforce and promote the college's safety and quality, education, and research programs and support its mission, vision and strategic directions and objectives.
2. (To) Acknowledge the importance of the integrity, values and independence of the college, as college policies, information or advice will not be altered to meet the requirements of a partner or sponsor.
3. (To) Respect the privacy of college fellows, trainees and staff and not contain any arrangements that may cause this to be compromised.
4. (To) Have in place the necessary controls to ensure that through the partnership there is no inappropriate influence on decision-making or any real or perceived favourable bias shown by any fellow, trainee or staff member of the college.
5. (To) Recognise that the partnership or sponsorship does not constitute any form of endorsement by the college, of any partners' or sponsors' product, service, or policy.
6. (To) Be open to public scrutiny. In the interests of public accountability and transparency the college reserves the right to acknowledge the existence of its corporate relationships in publications and other communications with its stakeholders.

7. (To) Be associated with an organisation that has a sound reputation\* and whose parent companies are also of sound reputation whereby the organisation is not in breach of Australian, New Zealand and/or international law.

\*The reputation judgement is made on the core business of the organisation and any known parent, subsidiary or holding company based on what the key college stakeholders would believe or know to be the business of the company.

8. (To) Be with an organisation that shows commitment to corporate and social responsibility, to gender and cultural equality, inclusion and diversity and environmental sustainability.

The College declares that it will not accept sponsorship from or enter into partnership with any organisation whose primary purpose is to promote or make profit from products or services it deems to be detrimental to public health, including but not limited to:

- Gambling.
- Weapons manufacture or distribution.
- Tobacco.
- Alcohol.
- Pornography.

The college also expects that any organisation where a partnership or sponsorship is agreed will actively promote sustainable environmental practice, corporate social responsibility and equality and diversity.

Partnerships and sponsorships negotiated through the ANZCA Research Foundation for research projects will consider the guiding principles one through to eight in addition to the specific research related procedures as outlined in APPENDIX A.

#### **4. Governance**

Governance of the management of partnerships and sponsorship is supported through this policy as well as the accompanying partnership and sponsorship procedure document. This procedure document consists of an inward sponsorship evaluation and approval process that defines and assesses risk, identifies financial delegation as well as reputational and ethical consideration and impact. A resolution process also forms part of the procedure document.

Appropriate oversight of and responsibility for partnerships and sponsorships reinforces a professional and co-ordinated approach by the college. The ANZCA CEO is responsible for the final decision on any contentious or disputed partnership or sponsorship. Matters not resolved through the office of the CEO will be escalated to ANZCA Council.

A list of representatives authorised by the college to either negotiate or approve sponsorship and partnerships is determined and referenced through the ANZCA delegation manual.

The college risk register is also referenced and used when determining partnership and sponsorships and any associated risks captured within this register.

## 5. Changes to ANZCA Partnerships and Sponsorship POLICY

The college may modify or amend this policy at any time. Formal notice of amendments will not ordinarily be given, but the current Partnerships and Sponsorship Policy will be available on the ANZCA website.

## 6. Related Documents

This policy should be read in conjunction with:

- The Partnership and Sponsorship Procedure.
- *PS40: Statement on the Relationship between Fellows, Trainees and the Healthcare Industry.*
- The ANZCA, "Supporting anaesthetists' professionalism and performance - a guide for clinicians".
- The ANZCA Research Foundation website and ANZCA research guidelines (as required) where the engagement involves support for research or other foundation-supported programs.
- The College staff delegation manual.
- The defined rules and regulations of the regulatory bodies Medicines Australia and Medicines New Zealand that govern the relationship between the healthcare industry and the health profession and for the purposes of this policy, the college, and its fellows, trainees and staff.
- The College risk register and risk management framework procedure.

## 7. Changes to Control Register

Version	Author	Approved by	Approval Date	Sections Modified
1	Jan Sharrock GM Fellowship Affairs  Rob Packer GM ANZCA Research Foundation	ANZCA Council	September 2017	All
2-3	Jan Sharrock ED Fellowship Affairs  Michelle Williams Sponsorship Manager  Nigel Fidgeon ANZCA CEO	ANZCA Council	September 2021	All - Policy & Procedural Document

## **8. Concerns or Comments**

If you have any concerns about the Partnerships and Sponsorship POLICY please contact the Executive Director Fellowship Affairs on +61 3 9510 6299 or via [fellowshipaffairs@anzca.edu.au](mailto:fellowshipaffairs@anzca.edu.au) . Requests must be in writing and resolution of concerns will be sought as promptly as possible.

## **9. Policy review**

Review date:	September 2023
Date of current policy:	September 2021
Policy custodian:	Executive Director, Fellowship Affairs

## **APPENDIX A.**

All partnerships or sponsorships involving the ANZCA Research Foundation must comply with the following procedures.

- Allow for and support independent peer review by, and the final research funding decisions of the ANZCA Research Committee or its delegates;
- Any conditions involved must be consistent with the ANZCA Research Strategy, ANZCA objectives and strategic priorities, and the ANZCA Research Committee's commitment to the impartial peer review and support of high quality research;
- Conflicts of interest are fully declared by all parties and subject to control by the ANZCA Research Committee and ANZCA Research Foundation;
- In the view of the Research Committee, could not be reasonably perceived to contribute to subconscious bias on the part of the funded researcher(s);
- Partnerships, sponsorships, and funded projects can each be assessed if required by independent and suitably qualified third parties (i.e. non signatories) including research peer review.