

## OSSANZ Recognised Post-fellowship Posts Bariatric Surgery

### Executive Summary

The need for post-fellowship sub-specialty training in General Surgery has been recognised by the profession and has led to the development of formalised programmes through key sub-specialties including Hepatobiliary (ANZHPB), Upper GI (ANZGOSA) and Colorectal Surgery (CSSANZ).

These programmes have a formalised selection process for fellows with limited numbers appointed each year; the positions are accredited by the organising body; appointment to posts is a centralised process; longitudinal assessment is via supervisor feedback and logbook submission and some organisations have instituted an exam. There is typically an annual educational meeting of all fellows in these programmes.

Whilst there are several opportunities around Australia and New Zealand for post-fellowship training in bariatric surgery, there has not been a formalised programme. ANZGOSA have several posts with significant bariatric components, and there are private fellowships offered. OSSANZ has not actively sought to follow the example of other General Surgery Societies, partly based upon resource requirements but also a belief that bariatric training is best delivered in conjunction with Upper GI training, due to the shared technical and peri-operative skill set.

However, there are skills unique to bariatric surgery, in particular in the long term care of the bariatric patient. For a young surgeon wishing to have a bariatric component to their practice, current opportunities are limited. In addition, there is no surety for the fellow seeking bariatric experience that the post they accept will afford them the experience they need.

Recognising that there is a potential need for a more formalised approach to post-fellowship bariatric training, we have adopted the following strategy:

- Recognition of positions that offer post-fellowship bariatric surgery training according to the OSSANZ standards, based upon RACS training standards
- Collaborative involvement with ANZGOSA training posts
- Recognised post-fellowship positions will be advertised on the OSSANZ website and Surgical News
- Interested fellows will apply directly to, and be appointed by, the institution
- OSSANZ will offer workshops to fellows throughout the year covering:
  - Basic and advanced surgical skills
  - Assessment and management of bariatric surgical patients
  - Management of complications of bariatric surgery
  - Presentation skills

## **Recognition of post-fellowship training positions in bariatric surgery**

### *PATHWAY:*

- Interested institutions apply to OSSANZ for consideration of recognition, filling in the attached form (based on RACS standards)
- The application will be assessed by the recognition sub-committee of the OSSANZ executive
- If key standards are met, recognised positions will be advertised on the OSSANZ website. If the institutions wish to advertise individually they may use the term “OSSANZ Recognised Bariatric Training Position”
- Recognition of posts will be for a period of 5 years, unless there are substantial changes to staff or service. After this period the post will be reviewed
- Feedback on positions will be sought from Fellows and ongoing recognition will be dependent upon satisfactory reports on:
  - Caseload and ability to act as primary operator
  - Teaching
  - Supervision
  - Work place conditions
- Collaborative interaction with ANZGOSA to assist with assessment of bariatric training posts within their programme when requested, as well as provide information for their fellows who may wish to seek further training in Bariatrics upon completion of their ANZGOSA programme.

## **OSSANZ standards for recognition of bariatric training posts**

The standards described below are based upon RACS accredited training positions for the 9 specialties. Whilst designed for SET training, the standards seem a sound basis for assessment of post-fellowship bariatric training positions.

For an institution to be recognised by OSSANZ they must substantially comply with each standard, with an emphasis on provision of a training environment that provides the necessary post-fellowship experience (pre-operative, post-operative, perioperative and surgical) with safe and appropriate work place conditions.

Interested institutions should complete this form and return it to the OSSANZ secretariat by February of any given year. Advertisements for posts will be placed in April. Applicants will apply directly to the institution, and any decision on appointment will rest with the institution.

Whilst no formal inspection process is currently required, OSSANZ reserves the right to inspect an institution should we receive feedback that contradicts the information provided in these forms.

## OSSANZ RECOGNITION OF POST-FELLOWSHIP BARIATRIC SURGERY TRAINING POSITION

### **Standard 1 - Education facilities and systems required**

*All trainees must have access to the appropriate educational facilities and systems required to undertake training*

	YES	NO
Computer facilities with IT support		
Tutorial room available		
Access to private study area		
General educational activities within the hospital		

### **Standard 2 – Quality of education, training and learning**

*Trainees will have the opportunities to participate in a range of desirable activities, the focus of which is inclusive of their educational requirements.*

	YES	NO
Coordinated schedule of learning experiences for each trainee		
Access to simulated learning environment		
Access to external educational activities for trainees		
Opportunities for research inquiry and scholarly activity		

These standards will be facilitated by encouraging the Fellow to attend the OSSANZ training workshops throughout the year

**Standard 3 – Surgical supervisors and staff**

*Programme managed by appropriate and accessible supervisor supported by the institution and committed surgeons, delivering regular education, training, assessment and feedback*

	YES	NO
Designated supervisor of fellowship programme		
Supervisor's role and responsibilities: Accessible Provides feedback to the trainee		
Specialist surgical staff appropriately qualified to carry out surgical training		
Surgeons committed to the training programme		
Regular supervision, workplace-based assessment and feedback to trainees		
Hospital support for surgeons involved in education and training		

**Standard 4 – Support services for Trainees**

*Hospitals and their networks committed to the education, training, learning and wellbeing of trainees who in turn acknowledge their professional responsibilities*

	Yes	No
Hospital support for trainees		
Trainees professional responsibilities – duty of care		

**Standard 5 – Clinical load and theatre sessions**

*Trainee must have access to a range and volume of clinical and operative experience which will enable them to acquire the competencies required to be a surgeon*

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Supervised consultative ambulatory clinics in consultative practice		
Beds available for relevant specialty		
Consultant led ward round with educational as well as clinical goals		
Caseload and casemix – with the ability to independently perform a minimum of 20 cases of the procedures for which they are receiving training.		
Operative experience for trainees		
Experience in perioperative care		
Involvement in acute/emergency care of bariatric patients		

**Standard 6 - Equipment and clinical support services**

*A hospital must have the facilities, equipment and clinical support services required to manage surgical cases in a particular specialty.*

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Facilities and equipment available to carry out diagnostic and therapeutic surgical procedures		
Imaging – diagnostic and intervention services		
Diagnostic laboratory services		
Theatre equipment		
Support/ancillary services		

**Standard 7 – Clinical governance, quality and safety**

*A hospital involved in surgical training must be fully accredited and have the governance structure to deliver and monitor safe surgical practices*

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Hospital Recognition status		
Risk management processes with patient safety and quality committee reporting to Quality Assurance Board		
Head of Bariatric Unit with a governance role		
Hospital Credentialing or Privileging committee		
Surgical audit and peer review programme		
Hospital systems review		
Occupational safety		

**Please return the completed form to:**

Mrs Diane Mungall  
 Secretariat - OSSANZ  
 PO Box 334, SEAFORD SA 5169  
 Phone: 1800 OSSANZ Fax: 08 8312 5573  
 Email: info@ossanz.com.au