



RESEARCH PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

A research project must be completed while undertaking clinical training, or a period of interrupted training, which has been approved by the Board of Training, for the purposes of research.

Trainees may complete one research project or contribute to no more than two research projects to fulfil the research requirement; however, each trainee must complete both Part A and Part B of the research process as outlined below:

Part A	Part B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literature review • Study design and methodology • Ethics approval 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data collection • Analysis and interpretation of results • Discussion of findings and conclusion

The research project must be relevant to urology and may be a:

- Randomised controlled trial
- Cross sectional study
- Prospective cohort study
- Retrospective cohort study
- Comparative study
- Qualitative research

Individual trainees may also complete a systematic review.

The trainee who initiates a research project must identify a Research Supervisor to oversee the completion of the project, and another trainee to continue with Part B of the project (if the trainee who initiates the project only completes Part A). The trainee who initiates the project will usually be the first author and is therefore responsible for overall review and submission.

Trainees must submit a research proposal to progress from Basic to Intermediate training. The research proposal can be submitted using the *Research Proposal Form*, or the completed application submitted for Ethics approval. In the case of the latter, any information required on the *Research Proposal Form*, that is not included in the application for Ethics approval, must also be provided.

The Research Supervisor must sign the *Research Proposal Form* to confirm that they have agreed to oversee the project to completion.

Trainees must submit any amendments to a research proposal, using the *Research Proposal – Amendment Form*. This includes the nomination of another trainee to complete Part B of the project after the project has commenced.

The Research Supervisor who has agreed to oversee the project to completion, must sign any proposed amendments to confirm:

- the elements of the project completed to date
- that the amendments to the research plan are appropriate.

The original Research Proposal Form or Ethics approval application must also be attached.

The manuscript must be submitted to one of the following:

- a) ANZ Journal of Surgery, or
- b) a peer reviewed journal listed in the Urology section of the RACS Library, or
- c) a medically related peer reviewed journal, with an Impact Factor of 2.0 or greater, that publishes articles related to urology, general surgery, or vascular surgery.

Trainees must submit the notification of acceptance of their research project(s) for publication to be eligible for Fellowship. If more than one trainee completed the project, the notification of acceptance must be accompanied by signed statements to confirm the part of the project that each trainee completed.

If a Research Project is rejected for publication by 3 journals, the Chair of the Education Sub-Committee of the Board of Urology will review the manuscript to determine whether it meets the training program research requirement. Any feedback received by the Chair, Education Sub-Committee must be actioned by the trainee who completed the relevant part of the research project, and the revised manuscript re-submitted to the Chair of the Education Sub-Committee for approval.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) – Research Project

Trainees may apply for RPL seeking an exemption from the research project requirement if they have completed a research project which resulted in a publication in a peer-reviewed journal, for which they were first author, within the last 5 years.

The research project must have been published in one of the following:

- a) ANZ Journal of Surgery, or
- b) a peer reviewed journal listed in the Urology section of the RACS Library, or
- c) a medically related peer reviewed journal, with an Impact Factor of 2.0 or greater, that publishes articles related to urology, general surgery, or vascular surgery.

Trainees seeking an exemption from the research project requirement must submit an *Application for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) – Research Project* together with a copy of the journal article title page clearly showing the publication reference, date, and trainee's authorship.