



Australasian College
for Emergency Medicine

ACEM Foundation Global Emergency Care Research

Policy FND836

Document review

Timeframe for review: every two (2) years, or earlier if required
Document authorisation: ACEM Board
Document implementation: ACEM Foundation Committee
Document maintenance: Manager, Membership and Culture

Revision history

Version	Date	Revisions
v1	Aug - 2019	Document created
v2	Apr - 2022	Updates to document review Updates to text headings throughout policy Board approval

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1. Background and purpose

Supporting and encouraging research into Global Emergency Care is an essential step in reducing current global health disparities for peoples from developing countries. Evidence about emergency care, and research priorities for emergency care largely come from mature systems and high-resource contexts. Research activities conducted jointly between high and limited-resource countries are often critiqued as extractive and neo-colonial, with high-resource researchers gaining unique access to data and information without equal skills and value transfer with their local collaborators. The ACEM Global Emergency Care Committee aims to support and encourage research that is driven by the emergency care needs, gaps and priorities of developing countries and is performed in partnership and collaboration with researchers within these countries.

The award will achieve this by:

- Fostering collaborative research partnerships that involve equal exchange of skills and knowledge;
- Recognising the importance of participatory action research and other models and research methods that enhance collaborative research

Encouraging ACEM trainee interest (thereby increasing trainee exposure) in Global Emergency Care. This policy governs the awarding of the Australasian College for Emergency Medicine (ACEM, the College) *Global Emergency Care Research Award*, which is made in respect of a published research paper to be most significant in the field of emergency medicine as it relates to Global Emergency Care.

2. Definitions

Global Health (GH)

is defined as an area for study, research and practice that places a priority on improving health and achieving health equity for all people worldwide. It emphasises transnational health issues and synthesises population-based prevention with individual-level care.

Global Emergency Care (GEC)

is a subset of global health and is primarily concerned with the development and practice of emergency care in resource limited environments. GEC relates to emergency care in developing countries (as defined in COR446 Policy on Defining 'Developing Country'). It does **not** include remote or resource challenged environments within Australasia or other developed settings. GEC encompasses all aspects of emergency care, including direct clinical service provision, teaching and training, emergency health systems development, quality improvement, leadership, advocacy and research.

GEC practice

generally falls within two broad areas:

- Capacity development for emergency care, and
- Emergency assistance in the setting of disasters and complex emergencies.

Good Standing

For the purposes of this policy means, a member who is currently compliant with all relevant ACEM renewal of membership requirements and has no financial debts to the College, or a trainee who has no financial debts to the College and has fulfilled all training and assessment requirements applicable to their stage of training.

Published

For the purposes of this policy means publication in an online or printed refereed/peer-reviewed journal. It does not include articles which are not yet published but have been made available via early online access prior to publication.

Quantitative methods

For the purposes of this policy means research utilising methods that emphasise objective measurements and a statistical analysis of data, focusing on collecting and analysing data on numerical and/or categorical variables and generating inferences across groups of people or to explain a particular phenomenon.

Qualitative methods

For the purposes of this policy means research:

- examining people's lives, experiences and behaviours, and the stories and meanings individuals ascribe to them;
- investigating organisational functioning, relationships between individuals and groups, and social environments;
- involving the studied use and collection of a variety of empirical materials such as case studies, personal experience, life stories, interviews, observations, and cultural texts.

Global Emergency Care research would often use a combination of methods, to ensure the quantitative data and qualitative information is combined in reaching final recommendations and outcomes.

Participatory action research

utilises reflection, data collection, and action that aims to improve health and reduce health inequities through involving the people who, in turn, take actions to improve their own health or health systems.

3. Application Process

3.1 Eligibility Criteria

The award may be made to the author of research which, in the opinion of the ACEM Foundation, makes a significant contribution to emergency medicine as it relates to Global Emergency Care.

A published article which is within its first year of publication is eligible for consideration for this award if:

- its lead author is an ACEM Fellow, FACEM trainee or International Affiliate; and
- the research team is comprised of ACEM and local collaborators, who jointly design the research topic, project design and final report; and
- it is most significant in the field of emergency medicine as it relates to Global Emergency Care; and
- it has been published in a refereed journal; and
- it has not previously been adjudicated for the award.

The award is made annually, where this is appropriate. If no applicant meets the criteria in a particular year, then the award will not be made.

To be eligible for consideration for possible receipt of the award, the nominee must also be of good standing with the College.

3.2 Nominations for the Award

Eligible persons and/or groups interested in nominating an individual, group or emergency department for the award will be required to complete and submit the appropriate form. All requirements and any accompanying information specified on that form must be completed and submitted by the deadline specified by the College.

Fellows, trainees or international affiliates who have authored an eligible article published during the immediately preceding financial year (1 July to 30 June), may apply for the award when invitations to do so are issued by the College.

Each application must be accompanied by a copy of the article, and by the relevant application form signed by all author Fellows, trainees, international affiliates and research partners. Where there is more than one author or presenter, the application must cite the lead author or presenter.

4. Selection process

4.1 Selection Criteria

Nominations for the award will be assessed according to the extent to which the individual's and/or group/ emergency department's initiative demonstrates evidence of:

Relevance to Global Emergency Care The paper is specifically relevant to global emergency care, not just as a subset of a larger research study. The paper has the potential to change current EM and GEC practice and influence emergency practitioners.	30
Contribution to reducing health inequity The paper identifies, investigates and aims to address issues of health inequity.	10
Demonstrates collaborative research partnerships The paper utilises meaningful engagement with community members throughout the entire research process.	20
Presentation/content/clarity The quality of the writing/ presentation style.	10
Quality of methodology The paper appropriately applies qualitative or quantitative research methodology.	20
Originality The paper addresses a unique issue or utilises a novel approach.	10
Maximum Total Score	100

4.2 Adjudication

A panel of three (3) or more assessors convened from ACEM Global Emergency Care Committee (GECCo) shall adjudicate the applications and recommend to the ACEM Foundation Committee a recipient for the award, based on the criteria outlined in 4.1 above.

The ACEM Board shall determine the recipient of the award. The decision of the ACEM Board will be final and no correspondence will be entered in to.

The award should be finalised no later than 30 days prior to the next Annual Scientific Meeting. All parts of the selection process must be conducted in accordance with the [College Conflict of Interest Policy \(COR139\)](#).

5. Award presentation

5.1 Nature of Award

The award consists of a monetary prize of \$1,000 and a certificate attesting to the award.

Where the research has the involvement of multiple individuals:

- the monetary prize will be divided between those authors; and
- each author or presenter will receive a certificate which includes the name of the lead and other eligible authors.

5.2 Award presentation

It is intended that the award will be presented at an ACEM forum considered appropriate to the nature of the award recipient(s) and initiative(s), and which may be dependent on the availability of the recipient(s). This may be at an ACEM Regional Scientific Meeting, the ACEM Winter Symposium, the ACEM Annual Scientific Meeting or College Ceremony.

5.3 Award publication

ACEM will publish the name of the individual and/or group/emergency department recipient(s) on the College website and through other College sources, in order to promote the award and raise awareness of the importance of physician wellbeing and establishing and maintaining safe working environments.

6. Associated Documents

- COR139 Conflict of Interest Policy
- COR446 Policy on Defining 'Developing Country'.
- Global Emergency Care Research Award Application Form
- EMA Guidelines for IEM papers: https://wol-prod-cdn.literatumonline.com/pb-assets/assets/17426723/emm_IFA_Appendix2-1509477809000.pdf



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