



Geriatric Emergency Medicine Network

A Network of the Council of Advocacy, Practice and Partnerships

1. Introduction

The Geriatric Emergency Medicine (GEM) Network is established pursuant to Regulation A9 and reports through the Health System Reform Committee to the Council of Advocacy, Practice and Partnerships (CAPP). These terms of reference are established under, and are subordinate to, Regulation A9 and the *Policy on Networks* ('the Policy'). A good working knowledge of the Regulations and Policy is essential.

These terms of reference include details of the following:

- Membership – pursuant to the policy, some elements of membership may be varied by CAPP
- responsibility and authority – matters which are specific to the GEM Network
- operational matters – where these have been varied by CAPP pursuant to the Policy.

Otherwise, refer to Regulation A9 and the Policy for details of all matters pertaining to the operation of the GEM Network.

2. Purpose

The GEM Network is a community of practice that has been formed to promote quality, timely emergency care in the best setting for older persons in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand. The general role and responsibility of Networks (or 'purpose'), as it relates to the Network and its Executive are set out in College Regulation A9.3.6 and Section 5 of the Policy.

3. Membership

3.1 Network Membership

The GEM Network shall comprise the following:

(a) Ordinary members:

- a minimum of 30 FACEMs and two (2) trainees with no limit on the maximum number of members or trainees;
- other members of the College, admitted pursuant to the applicable College regulations and policies;
- trainees enrolled in and undertaking the FACEM Training Program, the Emergency Medicine Certificate (EMC), the Emergency Medicine Diploma (EMD), Emergency Medicine Advanced Diploma (EMAD) and Diploma in Pre-Hospital Retrieval Medicine (DipPHRM), and Specialist International Medical Graduates (SIMGs) undertaking College requirements for the purpose of attaining eligibility for election to Fellowship of the College.

(b) External members:

- any person caring for older people in an emergency care setting or undertaking research related to the emergency care of this population.

Applications for general membership of the GEM Network shall be submitted in writing in accordance with the provisions of Regulation A9 and the Policy, in the format approved by the ACEM Board from time to time, and must be accompanied by all additional information as requested.

3.2 Executive

Composition of Executive

The GEM Network Executive shall comprise:

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- (a) Up to ten (10) ordinary members who hold Fellowship of ACEM and ordinarily reside Australia and/or Aotearoa New Zealand.
 - (b) Up to one (1) trainee enrolled in and currently undertaking the FACEM Training Program.
 - (c) Up to one (1) ACEM members in a category other than that of Fellow.

Of the maximum 12 members appointed to the GEM Network Executive pursuant to section 3.2(a) to (c) above, at least one (1) member shall be resident in each of Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand. The GEM Network Executive may co-opt one (1) external member and/or one (1) supernumerary member; co-opted members do not have voting rights.

Office Bearers

During the period where the term of office of a Network Executive is due to cease, but no more than a maximum of three (3) months from the date of the end of that term, CAPP shall accept from the current GEM Network Executive a nomination from eligible members of the Network for the positions of Chair and Deputy Chair of the Network for the following term of office. Such nominations shall have been endorsed by at least a 75% majority of the current Network Executive.

Casual Vacancies

A casual vacancy arising in the Network Executive shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of Regulation A9.

Revocation of Membership

Pursuant to Regulation A9 and the Policy, the appointment of any member to the Network Executive and/or any office bearer position may be revoked at any time by resolution of a majority of members present at any meeting of CAPP of which notice had been circulated to all members of CAPP and the GEM Network Executive members at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting.

4. Role and Authority

4.1 Role

The role of the GEM Network includes, but is not limited to:

- foster and promote quality clinical care for older people in EDs throughout Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand, which is both timely and delivered in the optimal setting.
- deliver education and training opportunities for EM trainees and FACEMs directed towards the unique care needs of older people in the ED.
- establish a network to promote multicentre clinical and systems research with respect to older people in the ED, especially research with translational benefit.
- be a liaison group for ACEM in advising on issues relating to the care of older people in the ED.
- build awareness, across ACEM and the wider community, of issues specific to the emergency care of older people, also establishing a broad community of practice.
- with the approval of ACEM, collaborate with like-minded groups such as the Australian and Aotearoa New Zealand Society for Geriatric Medicine in furthering the policy and advocacy strategy of the College.
- propose other issues or recommendations for the consideration of CAPP.

4.2 Extent of Authority

The GEM Network may provide advice to ACEM Board, CAPP and COE regarding matters within its purview, but does not have authority with respect to decisions that are binding on the College or any of its entities, including in regard to the commitment of ACEM resources to GEM Network activities.

4.3 Reporting

The Network shall provide a written report to CAPP via its parent committee following each of its meetings.

5. Meeting Requirements

5.1 Meetings of the Executive

The GEM Network Executive shall meet at least once per year by electronic means, with the ability to meet more frequently where necessary. At the discretion of the Network Executive, the meeting may be open to all members of the Network to attend.

The College will provide full administrative support for one (1) half-day or one (1) full-day meeting of the Network Executive each year by videoconference or other approved electronic format.

Where circumstances allow, the Network Executive may choose to meet face-to-face or in a hybrid format at craft events. The Executive shall be entirely responsible for arranging any such meeting and no financial or administrative support will be provided by the College in order for meetings of this sort to occur.

5.2 Meetings of the Network

In each calendar year, the Network Executive shall convene at least one meeting of the Network membership. Such meetings shall be held by electronic means and, in accordance with the requirements outlined in Regulation A9.5 and the Policy.

5.3 Quorum

The quorum for the transaction of business at a GEM Network Executive meeting is a majority of Executive members, at least one (1) of whom must be either the Chair or Deputy Chair. Non-voting members do not contribute to the determination of a quorum based on those present.

The quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of the Network is at least 15 members, including at least two (2) members of the GEM Network Executive.

6. Document Review

Timeframe for review:	Every two (2) years, or earlier if required.
Document authorisation:	ACEM Board
Document implementation:	Executive Director Policy and Strategic Partnerships
Document maintenance:	General Manager, Governance and Standards

7. Revision History

Version	Date of Version	Pages revised / Brief Explanation of Revision
v1	Nov-2018	Approved by CAPP
v2	Aug-2019	Approved by CAPP
v3	Mar-2021	Amendment to enable Executive to comprise two co-Chairs
v4	Jun-2022	Revisions to reflect review of Sections and alignment with revised requirements of Networks. Approved by ACEM Board.