



Australasian College
for Emergency Medicine



Sonographer Educators in Emergency Departments (SEEDS) Definition

This document has been provided by the ACEM and EMUGs Collaboration Working Group to assist Clinical Leads in Ultrasound in developing ED ultrasound training programs. The suggestions outlined are not required for accreditation for the FACEM Training Program. Due to the variation in size and resources available at sites throughout Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand, the guidance provided in this document may or may not be appropriate for your site.

What are SEEDS?

Sonographer Educators in Emergency Departments (SEEDS) are experienced sonographers who bring technical knowledge, experience, and advanced psychomotor teaching skills into the Emergency Department to help with hands on training, reporting and assessments of Emergency Clinicians. Whilst their primary role will be in image acquisition and interpretation, there are increasing skills in clinical integration, such as with incidental or unexpected findings.

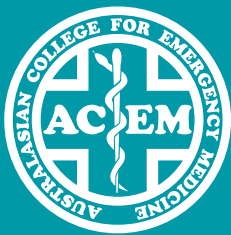
SEEDs have become a valuable resource within Emergency Departments over the past decade or so, both in Australasia and overseas^{1,2}. However, probably remain an underutilised resource. Research completed in Western Australia in 2015 demonstrated that ED Registrars who had dedicated weekly training time with SEEDs, had *“improvement in their skills, confidence and willingness to maintain skills through practice in the clinical context over the long-term”*.³

Other benefits of SEEDs within the Emergency Department include assisting with the administrative and operational aspects of an ED POCUS program, including image archiving and review/reporting, disinfection protocols, quality assurance processes as well as their relative cost effectiveness compared to other senior educators.

SEEDs currently in Australasia may be hired directly by the institution as hospital employees or hired on a contract basis.

References

- 1 Grimmet S, End B, Quedado K, et al. The Value of Sonography Education Faculty in an Academic Emergency Ultrasound Program. *Journal of Diagnostic Medical Sonography*. 2020;36(5):507-510.
- 2 Cormack C, Coombs P, Guskich K, Blecher G, et al. Collaborative model for training and credentialing point-of-care ultrasound: 6-year experience and quality outcomes. *Journal of Medical Imaging and Radiation Oncology*. 2017;62(3):330-336.
- 3 Sweetman G, Fear M, Hird K. Experience of a tutor centric model for sonography training of emergency department registrars in an Australian urban emergency department 2009-2012. *Australasian Journal of Ultrasound in Medicine*. 2015;18(3):112-117.



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