



ANZCA

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CEO

Australian and New Zealand
College of Anaesthetists

12 March 2025

Professor Guy Maddern FRACS
Surgical Director, Research and Evaluation
Research, Audit and Academic Surgery
Royal Australasian College of Surgeons
24 King William St
Kent Town SA 5067

By email: anzela-qi@surgeons.org

Dear Professor Maddern

National Clinical Quality Registry Program grant opportunity

On behalf of the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA), I am pleased to be able to offer our continued support of ANZELA-QI and this application for a National Clinical Quality Registry Program grant.

ANZCA is one of Australia and New Zealand's largest specialist medical colleges and is the region's foremost authority on anaesthesia, pain medicine and perioperative medicine, in addition to promoting best practice and ongoing continuous improvement that contributes to a high-quality health system.

Anaesthetists have a long history of supporting initiatives to drive quality improvement for emergency laparotomy patients, noting they have high perioperative morbidity and 30-day mortality.

In 2018 ANZCA and the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons committed to running the ANZELA-QI pilot project which demonstrated it is possible to undertake a bi-national prospective quality improvement project, and that there is a need for a national emergency laparotomy audit as many patients did not receive best evidence-based standards of care.

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care is now developing an Emergency Laparotomy Clinical Care Standard (CCS) prompted by ANZELA-QI reports and other data showing high mortality rates and wide inter-hospital variation in processes of care and outcomes for people undergoing emergency laparotomy.

Grant funding will permit ANZELA-QI to improve IT infrastructure for better data capture, real-time analysis and feedback to hospitals, to focus on broader metrics such as long-term survival, quality of life and Patient Reported Outcome Measurements analyses, and to support implementation of the Emergency Laparotomy CCS.

Our college will provide in-kind support by promoting the project to maximise engagement and participation by anaesthetists. We will do this through our website, regular electronic communications, quarterly *ANZCA Bulletin* and events, such as our annual scientific meeting.

Should you require any additional information, please contact Ms Clea Hincks, Executive Director, Policy and Communications on (03) 9510 6299 or policy@anzca.edu.au.

Yours sincerely



Mr Nigel Fidgeon
Chief Executive Officer