



# GUIDELINES

## Quality Improvement Project Prize

*Radiation Oncology*  
*For Fellows, Educational Affiliates and eligible trainees*

**The RANZCR Terms and Conditions for Awards and Prizes must be read in conjunction with these Guidelines.**

### PURPOSE

The purpose of the Quality Improvement Project Prize is to promote research and publication as an incentive for excellence and recognition. The prize will only be awarded in the case of high-quality research in Quality Improvement in radiation oncology being published in a peer-reviewed journal.

### BACKGROUND

The RANZCR Research Strategic Plan 2022 acknowledges that the safe and effective practice of modern medicine draws ever increasingly on the outputs of health and medical research and a commitment to evidence-based clinical decision making. The College is committed to promoting and facilitating a research culture and recognition of research performance.

### PRIZE

One prize of AU\$2,000. Funds will be paid directly to the prize recipient following recommendation by the Faculty of Radiation Oncology Council and endorsement by the Board. The recipient will be recognised at the RANZCR Annual Scientific Meeting.

### ELIGIBILITY

Applicants will be:

- Financial members of the College
- A Fellow, Educational Affiliate or trainee of the College
- The first author of the research publication

Applicants must provide a manuscript of a research paper that has been accepted for publication or has been published by the closing date for the application. For 2020-2021, this will be accepted from the preceding 2 years. From 2022, this will be accepted from the preceding 12 months.

### APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Any eligible member of the College may apply for this prize by completing the application form, which can be downloaded from the [College website](#).

Application forms should be submitted along with relevant supporting documentation. Late applications will not be accepted.

### ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

A panel of reviewers will be established by the Faculty of Radiation Oncology Research Committee (RORC) to assess and rank the applications. Expert outside reviewers, including members of the Faculty of Radiation Oncology Quality Improvement Committee, with relevant specialist knowledge may be co-opted by the RORC to contribute to the process.

Applicants can review the following websites for more information on the definition of Quality Improvement:

1. [Northwestern University IRB Guidance on Quality Improvement](#)
2. [ASCO Quality Improvement](#)

Any conflict of interest among the panel of reviewers will be declared by individuals, duly recorded and may exclude the panel member from being involved in the assessment process.

**The following criteria are used in judging the application**

These will include but not limited to:

1. Impact on practice and importance of the manuscript in healthcare improvement in radiation oncology
  - a. Quality
  - b. Safety
  - c. Effectiveness
  - d. Cost
  - e. Patient-centredness
2. Originality
3. Soundness of general method
4. Soundness of statistical methods
5. Style and clarity
6. Quality of illustrations, tables, etc.
7. Reader interest
8. Grammar, spelling, syntax
9. Degree of applicant's involvement in the research project
10. Scope of discussion
11. Validity of conclusion
12. Journal impact factor and citations per year.

False or misleading information provided during the application process will lead to withdrawal of the application.

**NOTIFICATION**

Once a successful recipient has been endorsed by the Faculty of Radiation Oncology Council, the College will formally notify the successful recipient by email. Ordinarily this notification will take place by the end of July each year.

**PRESENTATION AND ANNOUNCEMENT**

The award recipient will be invited to attend the College's Annual Ceremony at the Annual Scientific Meeting, where they will be presented with their prize.

Following the Annual Ceremony, the recipient will be added to the College Awards and Honours Roll, which is published on the College website.

**Please note that awards and grants are subject to change on an annual basis.**