



## Research Mentor

### Role Description

#### Preamble

The Faculty of Clinical Radiology aims to train practitioners capable of independent research by providing trainees with an environment that promotes academic development and a strong culture of research. We are committed to assisting those embarking on research for the first time offering resources, tools and support.

#### Primary Purpose of Position:

The role of a research mentor is to provide advice, encouragement, local knowledge, networking and research skill development to trainees, research project supervisors and Directors of Training. The mentor may provide advice on suitability of research project proposals, facilitate appropriate research contacts, provide feedback on research performed, and promote awareness of research grants and presentational opportunities. The position will improve equity of access to support and advice around academic/research activities for trainees across all training sites with differing levels of research focus and help develop research mentor relationships early in a trainee's career to foster his/her research interest.

The Research Mentor role should be supported by Heads of Department and Departmental Research Directors and is intended to complement the established training network system. The mentor will liaise with DoTs and project supervisors, noting that the research mentor's responsibilities are separate and ideally complementary to those of the project supervisor. The role is not designed to take over the supervisory aspect of a research project.

#### Appointment and Tenure:

The position is to be nominated by the Branch Education Officer, following support from the nominee's Head of Department.

- No fixed term is set for this position.
- The appointee shall hold Fellowship of RANZCR or be an Educational Affiliate.
- The Research Mentor will not be a Director of Training (DoT) unless there are good reasons that this should be the case.

#### Qualifications and Skills:

It is desirable for the appointee to have the following:

- Knowledge:
  - Basic and/or translational and/or clinical research
  - Research opportunities in Australasia
  - Funding mechanisms, including College-based grants
- Experience:
  - Principal Investigator
  - Track record of publications
  - Grant application success
  - Tutoring/mentoring those undertaking research (e.g. MD or PhD)
- Skills in:
  - Establishing and maintaining research connections and networks
  - Peer review

**Key Roles and Responsibilities:**

The Research Mentor may contribute to trainee research activities by:

- Assisting with the approval of Project Proposals.
- Assisting with research project sign off where appropriate
- Providing advice if requested on the feasibility of trainee research projects
- Reviewing/critiquing the trainee's drafts and manuscripts and providing constructive criticism in a timely manner.
- Reviewing trainees' plans for achieving his/her research career goals and providing appropriate advice.
- Facilitating connections to appropriate researchers in their field of research.
- Passing on opportunities such as grants to seek.
- Providing institutional knowledge about opportunities, pathways and resources.
- Advising trainees with assessment of committee invitations, the most suitable journals in which to publish, time management, etc.
- Communicating with trainees about research-related events.
- Attending research meetings.

Please note that this list is not exhaustive and the responsibilities and scope of the Research Mentor role will be adapted according to local centre and individual trainee need and interest.

Approved by the CRETC 1 October 2021 and ratified by the FCR Council 4 March 2022.