

Terms of Reference

Mood Disorders Psychodynamic Psychotherapy Evidence Review Steering Group



BACKGROUND

The RANZCP Board is commissioning an independent review of the evidence for long term psychodynamic psychotherapy in the treatment of mood disorders. The independent review will be overseen by the Mood Disorders Psychodynamic Psychotherapy Evidence Review Steering Group (**the Steering Group**).

This review is in response to concerns raised by members regarding the RANZCP Mood Disorders Clinical Practice Guideline Update 2020.

1. SCOPE OF WORK

The Steering Group will support:

- (a) The development of a Request for Quotation (**RFQ**) to review the evidence for long term psychodynamic psychotherapy to include:
 - i. A review of literature on the effectiveness of long term psychodynamic psychotherapy, and of qualitative and experiential evidence from the perspective of consumers, carers, and professionals;
 - ii. A critique of the final recommendations within the Mood Disorders Clinical Practice Guideline and whether they are evidence based given the criteria applied; or whether the criteria are too restrictive for making those broader recommendations;
 - iii. A review of the levels of evidence considered and whether psychodynamic psychotherapy requires a different approach to evaluating evidence; and
 - iv. Elevation of lived-experience perspectives in use of long term psychodynamic psychotherapy for the treatment of mood disorders.
 - (b) Reviewing proposals and recommend to the RANZCP Board an independent entity to conduct the review.
 - (c) Monitoring the delivery of the work undertaken by the independent entity.
 - (d) Providing guidance on the consultation process with RANZCP members that will be undertaken as part of the review.
2. Developing recommendations to the RANZCP Board about the status of the Mood Disorders Clinical Practice Guidelines Update 2020 based on the independent review of the evidence for psychodynamic psychotherapy in the treatment of mood disorders.

3. KEY DELIVERABLES

The Steering Group's key deliverables are to support the scope of work by engaging with the independent entity to review and guide progress, and to assist with the development of reports and recommendations to the RANZCP Board.

4. MILESTONES AND TIMELINE

| Activity | Date |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Establish Steering Group | November 2022 |
| Develop RFQ | November 2022 |

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| Appoint of independent entity | October 2023 |
| Monitor and guide workplan | January to April 2024 |
| Review of draft reports | April 2024 |
| Submit reports and recommendations to Board | May 2024 |

5. REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS AND REPORTS

- (a) The Steering Group will report to the Board and provide periodic reports as required.
- (b) The Steering Group will work with RANZCP Executive Manager, Policy, Practice and Research to ensure its deliverables are met.

6. COMPOSITION OF THE STEERING GROUP

- (a) The Steering Group will comprise a maximum of 7 members (including the Chair) who will be appointed based on the skills, knowledge and expertise required to undertake the Steering Group's deliverables.
- (b) Members of the Steering Group will include:
 - Independent Chair (Fellow)
 - Up to 3 Fellows with expertise and clinical experience in psychodynamic psychotherapy
 - A Fellow with expertise in evidence-based practice
 - A lived experience or carer community member
 - A senior clinical academic psychiatrist.
- (c) The Steering Group will endeavour to include appropriate representation from Australia and New Zealand.
- (d) The Steering Group will endeavour to achieve diversity, including gender balance.

7. APPOINTMENTS

8. The Board will ratify member appointments. The member term will be for the duration of the Steering Group.

9. MEETINGS

- (a) The Steering Group may meet as necessary to discuss and progress matters relevant to the Steering Group's deliverables, with the approval of the Board and in accordance with RANZCP policy and approved budget.
- (b) The RANZCP CEO, or their delegate will attend all meetings.

10. RANZCP RESOURCES

Support from RANZCP staff is to be provided by the Executive Manager, Policy, Practice and Research. Any further needs can be discussed with the CEO.

11. TIMEFRAME

The Steering Group is time limited for 18 months. A review will take place nearer to the end of the 18-month period to determine if an extension is required.

12. OPERATION OF THE STEERING GROUP

Refer to the [Committee Meeting Operations Regulations](#) for the Steering Group’s operational information including:

- Agenda
- Attendance
- Chair
- Committee Powers and Delegation
- Conflict of Interest
- Consent
- Confidentiality
- Meeting Code of Conduct
- Co-opted Members
- Defects in Appointment or Qualification
- Financial Responsibility
- Media and Authorised Statements
- Meetings
- Minutes
- Observers
- Other Committees
- Proxies
- Quorum/Voting
- Review
- Risk Management
- Support
- Voting Member Term
- Work Plan
- Definitions and Interpretation
- Associated RANZCP Documents

Any queries regarding the *Committee Meeting Operations Regulations* should be directed to the relevant staff member who is responsible for supporting the Steering Group.

ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

- Committee Meeting Operations Regulations and associated documents
- Board Regulations
- Steering Group Conflict of Interest Register

Revision Record

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| Contact: | Executive General Manager, Bi-national Offices and Professional Practice | | |
| Authorising Body: | Board via President’s Meeting | | |
| Responsible Committee: | Corporate Governance Risk Committee | | |
| Document Code: | ToR Mood Disorders Psychodynamic Psychotherapy Evidence Review Steering Group | | |
| Date | Version | Approver | Description |
| 20 December 2023 | 2.0 | President’s Meeting | Update the duration of the Steering Group from December 2023 to April 2024. |
| 17 November 2022 | 1.1 | Executive General Manager, Education and Operations | Updated the overall number of members to be consistent with the number of roles as part of the Steering Group’s composition, and other minor edits consistent with the latest Terms of Reference template. |
| 7 November 2022 | 1.0 | B2022/OOS R52 | New document. |
| NEXT REVIEW: N/A – Time Limited Steering Group | | | |