



ANZCA and FPM CPD Program

Category 3 Emergency response - criteria

1. Purpose

The purpose of these criteria is to define what constitutes an emergency response activity for inclusion in the [ANZCA and FPM Continuing Professional Development \(CPD\) Program](#). This ensures decisions regarding new emergency response activities are made in a consistent and objective manner.

The ANZCA and FPM CPD Committee, in developing the program, has considered each emergency response and stipulated minimum requirements for these skills-based course/workshops/simulations. Compliance with minimum requirements is essential for providers. Each emergency response activity has guidelines developed as part of this process.

All fellows and other CPD participants who hold specialist registration in Australia must meet their relevant specialist medical college high-level CPD requirements. The ANZCA and FPM CPD program high-level requirements for anaesthesia and pain medicine include one emergency response activity per year.

2. Emergency response category criteria

To be considered an emergency response activity and included in the CPD emergency response category, the following criteria must be met. For each participant, the selected activity must be relevant to their scope of practice.

1. The emergency situation must include one or more of the following aspects:
 - Acute
 - Rapid onset and progression
 - Immediate threat to life/health.
2. The emergency situations are uncommon and, as a result, skills are not maintained sufficiently in routine clinical practice.
3. The consequences of poor management are death or severe morbidity.
4. Courses/workshops/simulations reflect and address the real-life situation.
5. The provider must be able to substantiate the value of the course/workshop/simulation for patient outcomes and to participants.

3. Evolution of the Emergency response category

In 2014, the ANZCA and FPM CPD program introduced a unique category tailored specifically to the emergency response needs of anaesthesia fellows, other CPD participants and their patients.

Emergency response activity formats include practical simulation sessions, courses, workshops and online learning resources. They may include a practical simulation component, with simulation ranging from bench top training in a local department to fully immersive mannequin-based simulation in a simulation center.

The emergency response category was originally developed to facilitate regular education and maintenance of skills in those emergency responses considered core to safe anaesthesia and sedation practice. The 2014 CPD program required fellows and other participants of the clinical practice type to complete, during each triennium, two of the four emergency response activities below:

- Cardiac arrest
- Can't Intubate, Can't Oxygenate (CICO)
- Major Haemorrhage
- Anaphylaxis

Criteria for the emergency response category were created in 2013 for the purpose of defining what constitutes an emergency response activity, when considering submissions for inclusion in the CPD program.

During 2017 and 2018, the ANZCA and FPM CPD Committee comprehensively reviewed the four anaesthesia emergency response guidelines developed in 2014 (listed above) for currency and to enhance consistency across all activities. Changes included updated references, enhanced participant-to-facilitator ratios and structured durations.

Since 2014, the number of activities in the emergency response category has doubled to accommodate the needs of pain medicine and diving and hyperbaric medicine (DHM) practices. The new emergency response activities include:

- Two FPM ER activities to support safe pain medicine practice, Acute Severe Behavioral Disturbance (ASBD) introduced in 2018, and Cardiac arrest for specialist pain medicine physicians introduced in 2019.
- COVID-19 airway management, introduced in 2020 to reflect emergency learning needs during the pandemic.
- Central Nervous System Oxygen Toxicity (CNSOT) introduced in 2021 and designed for safe DHM practice.

From 2023, the annual ANZCA and FPM CPD program requires fellows and other CPD participants who provide direct patient care to complete one emergency response per year, relevant to scope of practice.

Change control register

Version	Author	Reviewed by	Approved by	Approval date	Sections modified
1	V Beavis S McManus P Roessler		Council	2013	Created
2	N Kaye K Elliott G Mastrantoni	J Koshy Y Murray P Roessler L Roberts	CPD Committee	2023	Updated to reflect annual 2023 CPD Program framework