

## Award

**Subject: RCPA Quality Assurance Programs (QAP) Trainee Prizes (Oral and Poster)**  
**Approval Date: November 2015, June 2016**  
**Review Date: June 2020**  
**Review By: RCPA QAP Board**  
**Number: 2/2015**

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The RCPA QAP offers annual prizes for Oral and Poster presentations at the RCPA Pathology Update. These are awarded in recognition of work, which highlight the use of QA/QC data to improve quality processes or outcomes in laboratories.

All applicants will be provided with a copy of this policy and will be expected to abide by the criteria and presentation requirements as set out below.

### Criteria

- Abstract and presentation must be on original research carried out by the Candidate(s).
- The applicant must be a registered Trainee at the closing date of abstract submissions.
- Judges will select applicants to present at RCPA Pathology Update from each prize category based upon their submitted abstracts meeting the following criteria and scored out of 10 points:
  - Originality of research
  - Structure and clarity of information presented
  - Research advances the understanding of the science of pathology
  - Clinical applicability and relevance
  - Novel or innovative approach to the topic.
- Applicants wishing to enter multiple prize categories (eg. DS Nelson, Roche, QAP) will not be permitted to submit the same abstract. To be eligible for selection, a different abstract is required for each prize category.

### Selection for Presentation

- Senior RCPA Fellows from a range of disciplines plus senior representatives from the RCPA QAP form the judging panel and will select the applicants to present at RCPA Pathology Update based upon their submitted abstracts.
- The top abstracts will be selected for presentation – two for the RCPA QAP Oral Prize and three for the RCPA QAP Poster Presentation Prize.
- Candidates whose abstracts are not selected for presentation may submit their abstract for selection for the Roche Scientific Poster display at Pathology Update.

### Presentations

- The RCPA Vice President will chair the RCPA QAP sessions and the judging panel used for the selection process will judge the presentations at Pathology Update.
- Judging will be based on the following criteria:
  - Originality 25%
  - Significance of findings (scientific merit) 40%
  - Presentation 20%
  - Response to questions 15%
- Abstracts for all presentations and displayed posters will be published in the supplement to the journal *Pathology*.

- The RCPA QAP Oral Prize presenters are allowed 8 minutes of oral presentation time followed by 2 minutes for questions.
- RCPA QAP Poster Prize presenters are allowed 3 minutes to summarise their poster followed by 3 minutes for questions.
- Presentations will be timed and presenters must cease speaking when the bell is sounded.

**Award Value**

- The RCPA QAP Oral Prize offers a cash award of AUD \$2,000 to the winner.
- The RCPA QAP Poster Prize offers a cash award of AUD \$1,000 to the winner.