

Policy

Subject: Role for College in Developing Communities/Overseas Aid
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There are many activities undertaken by Fellows of the College in an effort to assist developing communities to enhance their pathology services. There is scope for the College to add value to some of these activities. This policy describes the nature of the College's involvement in these activities, and areas considered to be outside the scope of involvement. The main function of the College would be overall coordinator and facilitator.

In general, the geographical boundaries of the College's involvement should be consistent with the Australian and New Zealand Governments' national priorities for provision of aid funding. In addition, consideration will be given to countries where the maximum impact will be likely.

Scope of College involvement:

The College will

- enable locum positions in developing communities to be advertised on the College website.
- compile a list of Fellows already involved in aid activities, or willing to become involved in such activities, including details of their expertise and areas of interest.
- when approached for expert advice regarding related issues, attempt to source a Fellow who is able to assist.
- publicise to College Fellows activities in which the College is involved.

The College may

- liaise with other Specialist Colleges and organisations (including non-governmental organisations, both locally and overseas) undertaking similar activities to identify opportunities for collaboration, and provide information about these activities to the Fellowship.
- negotiate with funding bodies to obtain funding for pathology activities in developing communities, and to highlight the role of pathology as an integral part of medical care, so that this is taken into account when determining funding for other medical projects.

- accept monetary donations from individuals for activities that the College undertakes in developing communities.
- facilitate access for pathologists in developing communities to websites and teaching material available within Australia.
- provide funding or other assistance for pathologists from developing countries to attend educational activities (such as the College's annual Pathology Update).

Areas considered to be outside the scope of College involvement:

The College will not

- become involved in issues pertaining to employment, whether these be employment of pathologists from other nations in jurisdictions under the College's banner or employment of College Fellows in other jurisdictions.
- accept unsolicited donations of equipment or other laboratory supplies for distribution to other nations.

Fellows supported by College to undertake these activities:

Any College Fellow undertaking activities in developing communities under the auspices of the College must:

- Be legally registered with the relevant National registration board
- Possess an Australian (or equivalent) medical qualification
- Demonstrate recency of practice in accordance with guidelines and
- Be proficient in the pathological techniques that will be undertaken in the country they are visiting
- If a Fellow intends to practice any clinical medicine while visiting a developing community, they must ensure they have adequate medical indemnity and registrations for the countries in which they intend to practice. It is the responsibility of the Fellow, not of the College, to ensure that they have the right indemnity and registrations in place.