1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE
This policy provides an overview of the Early Management of Severe Trauma (EMST) program.

2. KEYWORDS
EMST, course, description, skills training

3. BODY OF POLICY

3.1. Overview
The mission of EMST is to provide a trauma education program for doctors that promote the highest standard of initial care for injured patients.

A memorandum of understanding exists between the American College of Surgeons and the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) for delivery of EMST using the ATLS® course resources. Reciprocity exists between the EMST course and the international ATLS® course and RACS recognises these courses as equivalent.

3.2. Objectives
The purpose of the EMST Course is to orientate doctors to the initial assessment and management of the trauma victim. The content and skills presented in the course are designed to assist doctors in providing the first hour of emergency care for the trauma patient.

After completing an EMST course, a participant will be able to:

3.2.1. Demonstrate concepts and principles of primary and secondary patient assessment
3.2.2. Initiate resuscitation and definitive care of injured patients
3.2.3. Demonstrate skills used in initial assessment and management
3.2.4. Establish management for treatment and transfer of injured patients

3.3. Course delivery
The EMST course is a combination of lectures, practical skill stations, case scenarios and discussions run over two and a half days.

Each course has 16 doctors participating with the support of 7-8 volunteer faculty including instructors and a course director. Each course is organised by a local co-ordinator. More information regarding participants, faculty and co-ordinators can be found in the relevant policy (Refer to policies: Skills Training Participant management, Skills Training Faculty, Skills Training Faculty Charter, EMST and CCrISP® co-ordinator roles). For information on expectations of faculty involvement, refer to the EMST faculty code of conduct.

Curriculum and methods are outlined in a comprehensive manual which is sent to participants six weeks prior to course commencement.

Each course is run in a venue suitable to the requirements of the course, with a minimum of 1 large lecture room, 4 break-out rooms and adequate equipment.

3.4. Eligibility
EMST is available to all medical graduates who are Post Graduate Year (PGY) two or above.
The course is a requirement of all RACS Surgical Education & Training (SET) Trainees.

3.5. Accreditation

The EMST course meets the accreditation requirements of RACS (see Policy - Approval of CPD Activities and Accreditation of educational courses).

3.6. Evaluation

Participants conduct a post course evaluation survey at the completion of each day. The survey seeks feedback on course content, methodology, learning experiences and outcomes. This information assists the EMST Committee to improve course deliverables.

3.7. Assessment

To gain EMST certification, participants are required to complete all assessment components successfully. (Refer to Policy: EMST assessment)

3.8. Course Types

There are four different types of EMST courses:

Provider: 2.5 day course for applicants that have not previously completed EMST or ATLS®

Refresher: 1.5 day course for applicants that have previously attended an EMST Provider course

Instructor: Train the trainer course that all EMST instructors are required to undertake (refer to policy: Faculty Management, item 3.3 for more information)

Australian Defence Force (ADF): Standard EMST Provider course for ADF personnel

3.9. Course validity

On successful completion of an EMST Provider or Refresher course, EMST status is valid for four years.

4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Policies

EDA-SKD-001 Approval of CPD Activities and Accreditation of Educational Courses

EDA-SKD-029 Skills Training Participant Management

EDA-SKD-028 Skills Training Faculty

EDA-SKD-024 EMST Course – Participant Assessment

EDA-SKD-017 EMST and CCrISP® Course Coordinator Roles

EDA-SKD-037 Skills Training Faculty Charter

Approver: Education Board

Authoriser: Council