

# **ANZGITA POLICY for**

## **Fraud and Corruption Avoidance**

### **1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

The Australian and New Zealand Gastroenterology International Training Association (ANZGITA) adheres to DFAT's Fraud Policy Statement in relation to public and donated funds. ANZGITA has a zero tolerance approach to fraud and fraudulent activity. This policy provides a framework for managing and reducing risks of fraud in the context of ANZGITA's Training Programs and other activities (Program). The policy details the responsibilities in relation to fraud for ANZGITA's management, volunteers, partners or subcontractors (paid or unpaid) involved in the delivery of its Programs.

### **2. BACKGROUND**

ANZGITA is involved in training programs and other activities to develop gastroenterological services capacity in the Asia-Pacific region. Some of the countries in which ANZGITA activities currently, and in the future will, take place are difficult environments where poverty and disadvantage remain widespread. Governance arrangements can be underdeveloped and attitudes towards fraud and fraudulent activity, transparency and accountability may be less developed than in Australia. Given these contextual factors, the delivery of programs and projects in these environments can face an increased risk of fraud or fraudulent activity.

In line with DFAT's fraud policy, ANZGITA is committed to protecting donated monies, public funds as well as donated or purchased property from any attempt by personnel from ANZGITA and partner organisations, and by contractors associated with our programs, to gain through deceit, whether financially or through other benefits.

### **3. DEFINITIONS**

'Fraud' or 'fraudulent activity', in line with the Commonwealth's Fraud Control Guidelines, means 'dishonestly obtaining a benefit by deception or other means. Fraud requires more than carelessness, accident or error. It may include theft; accounting fraud; unlawful use of assets; providing false or misleading information, or failing to provide it when there is an obligation to do so; and making, or using false, forged or falsified documents.' The 'benefit' obtained is not restricted to monetary or material benefit, and may be tangible or intangible, including the unauthorised provision of access to or disclosure of information.

### **4. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

All ANZGITA directors and trainers, as part of their normal Program responsibilities, are responsible and accountable to ANZGITA, and to donors, to prevent and report a suspected fraud by any individual associated with any organisation involved in a Program.

Allegations are to be reported to the appropriate program director or to the Chair. It is their responsibility to decide what further action is to be taken.

All trainers making an allegation of fraud will have their confidentiality upheld. The person making allegations of fraudulent activity will have their confidentiality maintained throughout any investigation.

Failure to report fraudulent activity in relation to a Program's activities or use of Program funds and engaging in fraudulent activity are serious issues. It may be cause for termination of the relationship with ANZGITA, revocation of membership and even criminal prosecution. Trainers will be provided with briefing information related to their responsibilities under this policy prior to attending a training program.

#### External References

DFAT Fraud Policy Statement <http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/fraud-policy-statement>

Fraud Control and Anti-Corruption within DFAT, including the Australian aid program Fact Sheet <http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Documents/fraud-control-fact-sheet.pdf>

Approved by Board of Directors.

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