

Updates to Roux Group guidelines on involvement with and dissemination of research projects

In recent weeks there has been an increase in requests for the Roux Group to disseminate research projects to their members. In response to this, the Executive Committee has decided to update its guidelines on how we will communicate opportunities to engage with projects and how we will consider projects which we have been asked to support and help deliver through our trainee network.

Dissemination and circulation of Surveys

Surveys can be of varying quality and can be stand-alone or part of a larger work-package of research. Unlike collaborative projects where trainees can receive credit for their involvement, surveys can take (precious) time to complete depending on the detail that is being asked and trainees rarely see a return for their efforts. This is, unless the survey is likely to improve training opportunities for said member. Those who wish to use trainees to complete surveys have many other avenues through which they can access them including via regional research collaboratives, HEE networks and ASiT to name a few. The Roux Group has therefore developed the following guidance:

- If the survey is part of a wider research work package e.g. a site survey as part of a national audit or a collaborative study we will circulate this as part of our regular newsletter detailing research projects that may be of interest to our members.
- Surveys aimed at both Consultants and Trainees can be sent to the AUGIS office through the normal route to seek approval for dissemination to the membership.
- If either of the above do not apply, The Roux Group will not circulate surveys to our members via email and we will not retweet links or tweets that contain surveys.

“Badging” of Research Projects and Endorsement by The Roux Group

On occasion we are approached to support a project and help to deliver the research using our network of trainees and SAS surgeons. In a bid to ensure that we ask our members to commit to quality well-run projects that are likely to be delivered we have decided the following:

- Projects that we are asked to support will be looked at by the relevant subspecialty lead, the Research & Audit Representative and Education and Training Representative. If they feel it is suitable for us to be involved then it will be taken to the relevant AUGIS SSL to be signed off for the final approval.
- Transparent guidance regarding the vetting process for projects will be made available in due course on our website.
- Following approval the project will be able to use the Roux Logo on its documentation and we will help work with the steering committee to deliver the project through our network of members.

Communication to members regarding research opportunities

The new committee will produce a newsletter every four months which will include a list of research projects that we believe will be of interest to our members. These will also be included on our website with links. Both the newsletter and the website will include a footnote to make it clear that despite being advertised, projects are not endorsed by The Roux Group. Those who wish to have their project included can contact the Roux Group Secretary or the Social Media Representative. Emails received within two weeks of the newsletter being circulated will be included in the next edition. The Research and Audit Representative is eager to develop a section on the website that informs members of future OOPR opportunities and adverts for research positions. The Roux Group Committee are very supportive of this venture and will update its members on this in due course.