

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF NEPHROLOGY

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ABN 87 008 505 502



Terms of Reference ANZSN Green Nephrology Action Team (GNAT)

Role:

- a) The ANZSN (Society) Green Nephrology Action Team (GNAT) is a subcommittee of the Society, and provides advice to the Society's Council (Council).
- b) GNAT aims to foster, promote and support environmentally sustainable nephrology practice within Australia and New Zealand.

Functions:

- a) GNAT's functions are
 - i) to create a Position Statement to reflect the ANZSN's stance on environmental issues in Nephrology.
 - ii) to consider and promote research initiatives that explore environmentally sustainable practice.
 - iii) to consider means of incorporating relevant environmental themes into Australian Nephrology scientific meetings and the Nephrology training program.
 - iv) to work with key partners (e.g. Kidney Health Australia, Renal Society of Australasia) to engage healthcare professionals, patients and the wider community in understanding the connections between Nephrology care and the environment and addressing the impacts of renal healthcare on the environment.
- b) Office bearers and members of the Committee or any subcommittee of the Committee, must obtain express written permission from the Council or Chair of the Council before purporting to act or communicate on behalf of the Society or Council

1. Membership

- a) GNAT should be comprised of individuals with experience or an interest in environmental sustainability.
- b) The committee should be made up of no less than 5 and no more than 10 members.
- c) GNAT members should be members of the Society, except for up to three members with renal nursing or technician backgrounds, one Kidney Health Australia representative and one consumer and/or carer.
- d) Ideally, the membership should include representation from a range of Australian states and at least one NZ representative.
- e) The Chair of GNAT will be elected by the Committee from its membership and ratified by the ANZSN Council.

2. Meetings

- a) The mandate of GNAT will be for two years, with the option to extend this time if GNAT feels this to be necessary.
- b) GNAT will meet 6-8 weekly by tele- or video-conference, with the option to arrange a face-to-face meeting if GNAT feels this to be worthwhile.
- c) Further meetings may be organised as felt necessary by GNAT.
- d) A quorum of members (comprising at least 50 per cent representation of the membership) must be present before a meeting can proceed.
- e) Decisions will be made by consensus from members.
- f) Members are required to attend a minimum of 80 per cent of meetings.

- g) Members will also be required to undertake specific activities / tasks on behalf of GNAT outside of the formal meetings as determined by the GNAT membership.

3. Secretariat

- a) The ANZSN will provide administrative support to GNAT for the operational aspects of the committee.

4. Reporting

- a) GNAT will report directly to ANZSN Council biannually.
- b) All GNAT meeting minutes will be forwarded to the ANZSN.
- c) Additional written reports will be provided to the ANZSN as required.

5. Confidentiality

Committee members may, on occasion, be provided with confidential material and may be required to sign a confidentiality agreement. Members are not to disclose this material to anyone outside the Committee and are to treat this material with the utmost care and discretion and in accordance with terms of their confidentiality agreement.

6. Conflict of Interest

A committee member must declare any conflict of interest to the GNAT Chair if they, their partner or close family friend has a direct financial or other interest which influences, or may appear to influence, proper consideration or decision-making by the committee on a matter or proposed matter. The Chair shall determine the matter and advise the person concerned and also report his/her decision to the Committee.

7. Amendments

The Terms of Reference will be reviewed by GNAT at the first meeting and may be altered by consensus agreement of members. Such amended terms of reference will be provided to ANZSN Council for their approval.