



ABOUT US

PRIMARY CARE SURGICAL ASSOCIATION (PCSA)

The PCSA was established in 2012 by a group of GP's with a special interest in primary care surgery. These doctors were doing similar work in isolation throughout the country, and so decided to come together in an effort to enhance the professional standards in this growing area of community-based surgery.

These doctors provide standard, routine skin surgical procedures such as simple excisions, cryosurgery, ingrown toenail surgery in a community setting.

The following are the aims and objectives of the PCSA:

- To promote the provision of appropriate surgical services in primary care settings to the highest standards
- To further education and training needs of practitioners working in this area
- To work with other professional organisations to develop guidelines for validation and appraisal
- To act as an advocacy group for its members
- To be a forum for the exchange of views, information and resources



Constitution
Of The
Primary Care Surgical Association
Ireland

Name

The name of the Association shall be the Primary Care Surgical Association, hereinafter called the PCSA.

Background

Traditionally, General Practitioners (GPs) in Ireland have provided surgical services for their patients in the community. Very often, it has fallen to these GPs to do this work in isolation, without the support of colleagues engaged in similar surgical practice. The Primary Care Surgical Association (PCSA) was established in 2012 by a group of GPs with a special interest in surgical procedures in primary care to support doctors, GPs and others in the provision of these community services and enhance professional standards in the area of surgery in primary care in Ireland. The PCSA held its inaugural meeting in Limerick in April 2012.

A website to encourage and promote communication among its doctor members is accessible at www.pcsa.ie

Objectives

The objectives of the PCSA are as follows:

- to promote the provision of appropriate surgical services in primary care settings to the highest standards
- to promote training and education for doctors providing surgical services in primary care through a mentoring and accreditation process
- to work with other professional organisations to develop guidelines for aforementioned accreditation and ongoing appraisal
- to promote research and foster scientific publication in the area of surgical services in the community
- to develop and improve communication between primary care and other stakeholders in the area of community-based surgery
- to act as an advocacy group for its members and promote awareness of the PCSA among GPs and other doctors on a national level
- to act as a forum for the exchange of views, information and resources among its members

In furtherance of the above objectives, the PCSA may obtain, collect and receive monies by way of grants, donations, subscriptions, training costs, bequests or other lawful methods provided that the PCSA may not engage in any form of permanent trading. The PCSA may award scholarships or bursaries as approved by the committee to such persons and on such terms as the committee shall from time to time decide.

Membership

The PCSA shall be non-political and non-sectarian in character and the following will be eligible for membership;

- Any doctor in good standing who currently holds membership with the Irish Medical Council (IMC) or General Medical Council (GMC) of the United Kingdom.

Membership procedure:

- A doctor wishing to become a member shall complete an application process through the PCSA website or by post as described on the website. On verification of the doctor's registration and receipt of the membership subscription, membership shall be granted.
- The committee shall fix the rate of the subscription fee and the subscription year shall run from January to December.
- Subscriptions shall be payable in January each year.
- A member shall have access to the membership section of the website.
- A member who is more than one year in arrears shall cease to be a member of the PCSA.
- Fully paid-up members of the Association of Primary Care Surgeons (UK) shall automatically become non-voting members of the PCSA.

Committee

The PCSA shall have a committee consisting of Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Webmaster, and a number of other members as decided from time to time. The committee shall be elected every year at the AGM.

The committee shall meet formally on a number of occasions throughout the year and shall remain in regular contact throughout the year –written, spoken or electronic – for the purpose of ongoing discussions pertinent to the PCSA. Smaller sub-committee meetings may be held from time to time as deemed necessary for the objectives of the PCSA and information gathered at such meetings shall be disseminated to all committee members.

Minutes of full, formal committee meetings shall be kept by the secretary at such meetings and shall be circulated to all committee members thereafter.

The committee shall report to the members of the PCSA and other attendees at the AGM.

Finance

All monies raised by or on behalf of the PCSA shall be applied to further the objectives of the PCSA, including the payment of legitimate out-of-pocket expenses to members of the PCSA engaged upon approved business of the PCSA. The treasurer shall keep proper accounts of the finances of the PCSA. The accounts shall be presented at the AGM by the Treasurer. The financial year shall run from January 1st to December 31st. A bank account has been opened in Allied Irish Bank, Ashe St, Tralee and shall be maintained there until such time as the committee may decide to use an alternate bank. The committee shall authorise the Treasurer to sign cheques on behalf of the PCSA.

Alterations to this Constitution

Any alteration of this constitution shall receive the agreement of not less than two-thirds of the committee.

Dissolution

If the committee decide by a simple majority that for any reason it is necessary or advisable to dissolve the PCSA, the PCSA shall be so dissolved. The committee shall then transfer any remaining funds, after satisfaction of all debts, to another charitable institution of their choice.

Agreed on May 29th, 2014