

**Submission to GEM Committee  
March 2025**

**Restricted fund – Bashir Hussain Fund for international emergency medicine  
education and leadership development.**

**For review and approval**

**Context**

In 2024, following discussion with the President and Executive colleagues, Dr Taj Hassan and his family were granted approval to establish a restricted fund for education dedicated to his late father on the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his tragic death.

A total of £10,000 was raised and donated by Dr Hassan and his family in the first year to set up the fund with a minimum commitment for 3 years and thereafter. The Fund will support the development of collaborative grants with academic institutions in Pakistan and other parts of South Asia to help training, education and leadership development in Emergency Medicine.

**Progress**

The proposal outlined the need for an MoU and then submission to the GEM Committee for final approval.

An MoU (Appendix 1) has been now agreed and further fund raising for 2025 is planned supported by family, friends and colleagues interested in supporting EM development in Pakistan and South Asia.

The exact use of the Fund will evolve in 2025 and will be focused on collaborative grants with academic institutions in South Asia. It is intended that this will compliment any College initiatives, for example, in Pakistan currently an academic prize is being considered to be awarded to support the development of emergency medicine.

**Action**

The MoU outlines the establishment of a small Board to provide oversight, supported by co-opted RCEM members as required to provide input and further guidance.

This submission to GEM Committee is to seek review and final sign off. The work of the Fund and its outputs will be fed back to GEM Committee on an annual basis.

## Recommendation

It is recommended that GEM Committee notes this development which will compliment College activities.

Dr Taj Hassan  
Chair of GEM Committee

## APPENDIX 1

### **Royal College of Emergency Medicine Restricted Fund - Bashir Hussain Fund for emergency medicine education and addressing health inequalities**

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

### 1. Purpose

The purpose of this MoU is to establish a framework for the creation and administration of the Bashir Hussain Restricted Fund for funds raised by Dr Taj Hassan (Past President) and his family/network to benefit the development of Emergency Medicine primarily but not exclusively in Pakistan. This Fund is intended to provide grants for fellowships, educational initiatives, and support for simulation training and scientific conferences in Emergency Medicine for major centres in Pakistan, then widen this to South Asia and also in time consider projects for tackling health inequalities in the UK.

Dr Taj Hassan and his family are delighted to be launching this Fund in memory of Dr Hassan's father Bashir Hussain, who sadly and tragically died 25 years ago. He had a seismic multigenerational impact on their family with his vision and passion for education and supporting those who were less well off in life. A life spent driving buses in Birmingham did not dim his commitment and inspiring them to want to help others. They are very grateful to the Royal College for allowing them to create this Fund that the family will endow at the launch and help support going forwards in future years.

The family are very grateful to those friends and colleagues who would wish to donate to the Fund to support projects in the future.

The intention is that further fundraising will be undertaken over time. Decisions on grants will be made by a Board set up to administer this as set out below in the Terms of Reference.

### **Terms of Reference for the Board Administering the Bashir Hussain Fund**

#### 1. Purpose

The purpose of this Board is to oversee the administration of the Bashir Hussain Restricted Fund established within the College accounts. This fund, raised by Dr Taj Hassan (Past President) and his family/network, aims to support the development of Emergency Medicine initially in Pakistan through grants and collaborations with local charity partners with

educational projects in emergency care. Over time this is expected to widen to consider supporting educational projects in emergency care in other low resource settings in South Asia as well as helping address health inequality projects here in the UK.

## **2. Fundraising and Utilisation**

The fund will be subject to ongoing fundraising efforts.

Grants from the fund will support projects that develop Emergency Medicine initially in Pakistan.

Primary use of the fund will be in collaboration with local charity partners initially in Pakistan.

Over time as the Fund grows it will consider requests supporting educational projects in emergency care in other low resource settings in South Asia as well as helping address health inequality projects here in the UK.

## **3. Composition of the Board**

The Board will consist of three members:

- The CEO of the College (or a nominated deputy).
- Dr Taj Hassan (Chairperson for life)
- One additional member from Dr Hassan's family or another donor/fundraiser.

If Dr Hassan is unable to continue as Chair, the College will seek his successor from within his family.

If contact with Dr Hassan's family is lost despite reasonable efforts, the College Global Emergency Care Committee (or its successors) will nominate two members from its ranks to join the Board and a Chair will then be elected from amongst its numbers.

## **4. Responsibilities**

Review and approve grant applications.

Ensure funds are used in accordance with the fund's purpose.

Collaborate with local charity partners to identify and support suitable projects.

Monitor and evaluate the impact of funded projects.

## **5. Meetings**

The Board will usually meet online as and when business requires.

Decisions will be made by majority vote.

## **6. Reporting**

The Board will provide an annual report to the College detailing the fund's activities, grants awarded, and the impact of funded projects.

## **7. Amendments**

Any amendments to these Terms of Reference may be proposed by the Board but must be approved by the Council of the Royal College of Emergency Medicine.


**Signed:**

A handwritten signature in purple ink, featuring a series of vertical strokes followed by a horizontal line and a long, sweeping underline.

Dr Taj Hassan

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gordon Miles' in a cursive script.

Gordon Miles, Chief Executive, RCEM

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9 January 2025

