

Proposed changes to AMS membership categories.

At present, only medical practitioners, health professionals or researchers may apply for full membership under the AMS Constitution. A retired full member, a retired medical practitioner or nurse, allied health or student may apply for associate membership.

By special resolution, the Company may create different classes of membership and may confer on each such newly created class of membership, such rights, privileges or benefits the Company sees fit.

The AMS Board is seeking to improve clarity around these categories. As the term 'health professional' is not a clearly defined profession, the Board is seeking to remove this category from full membership. The Board also proposes that the profession 'scientist' be added into the full membership category to allow for membership applications from scientists working in the biomedical and social sciences of midlife women's health.

The AMS has defined allied health professionals to be those:

- Who are registered under the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme; or
- Who are considered in the Commonwealth's health workforce policy planning; or
- Whose professional body is eligible for membership of the Allied Health Professions Australia.

These allied health professions include: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workers, Chinese medicine practitioners, chiropractors, dentists, medical radiation therapists, nurses, midwives, occupational therapists, optometrists, osteopaths, pharmacists, physiotherapists, podiatrists, psychologists, audiologists, counsellors, dietitians, exercise physiologists, music therapists, nutritionists, pathologists, social workers, sonographers and speech pathologists.

The AMS has received a number of applications from para-professionals working with menopausal women who do not satisfy the current membership categories. These applications include an early menopause support group facilitator with no formal training and a personal trainer who provides exercise classes for women in midlife. Therefore, the Board is seeking to amend the Constitution to include a discretionary class of membership. Members under the discretionary class will have the benefits of associate membership but will not be entitled to vote. A summary of membership categories and benefits is listed in the Table below.

The Constitution has been marked up to reflect these changes and the members will be asked to consider, and if thought fit, pass the following resolution as a special resolution:

That the current Constitution of the Company be revoked in its entirety and replaced with a new Constitution as attached to this Notice and marked Annexure A.

AMS Membership categories and benefits

NB. These membership categories are for new applications. Existing members retain their membership category and/or may apply for another membership category if they qualify.

Membership category	Profession	Voting right	Access to member area of website	Listing in member directory	Listing in Find an AMS Doctor
Full member*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical practitioner • Researcher • Scientist 	yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Associate member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retired full member • Retired medical practitioner • Allied health professional** • Nurse • Student 	yes	Yes	Yes	No
Associate member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discretionary*** 	No	Yes	Yes	No

*the profession "health professional" has been removed and the profession "researcher" has been added to the Full Member category.

**includes: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workers, Chinese medicine practitioners, chiropractors, dentists, medical radiation therapists, nurses, midwives, occupational therapists, optometrists, osteopaths, pharmacists, physiotherapists, podiatrists, psychologists, audiologists, counsellors, dietitians, exercise physiologists, music therapists, nutritionists, pathologists, social workers, sonographers and speech pathologists.

***includes para-professionals working with menopausal women who do not satisfy the current membership categories e.g. an early menopause support group facilitator with no formal training and a personal trainer who provides exercise classes for women in midlife. All applications need approval of the Board.