

Happy Holidays!



CPMC News wishes all Colleges and the extended network *happy holidays*.

The Committee of Presidents of Medical Colleges is the peak body representing the interests of all fifteen specialist Medical Colleges in Australia. CPMC convenes a quarterly forum which acts as an information exchange between Australia's chief policy makers in the health community.

This Christmas edition of the newsletter will now reach out beyond the immediate membership to all stakeholders and be produced bi-monthly in 2016.

Index to the December 2015 edition:

1. Introducing CPMC Chair, Laureate Professor Nicholas Talley
2. Launch of the Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation by the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care - 26 November, 2015
3. Medical Regulation in Australia: Joint MBA-CMC Forum
4. RACP Health Policy Forum: US Health
5. Ministerial Releases/Announcements
6. AHPRA Annual Report 2014/15 and Revised Registration Standards
7. Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC) Schedule of Listings for 10 December 2015
8. Health Workforce Statistics

OUR VISION

The Committee of Presidents of Medical Colleges will be the recognised and authoritative voice for the specialist Medical Colleges of Australia, acting to promote the highest quality of medical care and supporting the provision of well-trained and safe medical workforce serving the best interests of the Australian community by coordinated and collective advocacy and collaboration.

Find CPMC at www.cpmc.edu.au

Introducing the CPMC Chair 2015-17



Laureate Professor Nicholas J. Talley

MB BS (Hons)(NSW), MMedSc (Clin Epi)(Newc), MD (NSW), PhD (Syd), FRACP, FAFPHM, FRCP (Lond), FRCP (Edin), FACP, FACG, AGAF, FAHMS

Pro Vice-Chancellor, Global Research, University of Newcastle

Laureate Professor Talley is currently Pro Vice-Chancellor, Global Research at the University of Newcastle, Australia. He previously held an appointment as Pro Vice-Chancellor (and Dean) of the Faculty of Health and Medicine at the University of Newcastle from 2010-2015. He was seconded to be the Deputy Vice-Chancellor-Research (Acting) at the University of Newcastle from June 2013 to March 2014.

Professor Talley has published over 870 original and review articles in the peer-reviewed literature, and is considered one of the world's leading gastroenterologists (H index 119, Scopus). He is also a leading clinician and educator, as well as the author of the highly regarded textbooks *Clinical Examination* and *Examination Medicine* with Dr Simon O'Connor. In June 2014, he was inaugurated as one of the first 15 Fellows of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences (FAHMS) and was elected to the Executive of the Academy.

Professor Talley was formerly Chair of the Department of Internal Medicine at Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Florida where he held the rank of Professor of Medicine and Professor of Epidemiology at Mayo Clinic, and was the Foundation Professor of Medicine at the University of Sydney, Nepean Hospital for nearly a decade.

Professor Talley is a Senior Staff Specialist at John Hunter Hospital and is in active clinical practice. He serves on a number of prominent boards, currently edits a major international journal (*Alimentary Pharmacology and Therapeutics*), has been appointed Editor-in-Chief of the *Medical Journal of Australia*, is a section editor for Up To Date, and currently holds adjunct research appointments as Professor at Mayo Clinic, University of North Carolina and the Karolinska Institute. He is a Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (and President), the Royal College of Physicians (both London and Edinburgh), the American College of Physicians, the American College of Gastroenterology and the American Gastroenterological Association. He has been elected Chair of the Council of Presidents of Medical Colleges in Australia from December 2015.

Launch of the Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation by the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care - 26 November, 2015



The Minister for Health launched the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care's first edition of an Atlas of Healthcare Variation on 26 November 2015. The Atlas is aimed at investigating and analysing health care variation across Australia. This first edition contains 37 items distributed across 7 chapters covering antimicrobial dispensing, chronic disease, mental health and psychotropic medicines, care of older peoples, surgical interventions, pathology and diagnostics, and pain management. CPMC released a statement which can be found at www.cpmc.edu.au under media releases. The launch was well attended by staff from the ACSQHC, Colleges, the Department's Secretary and key senior staff as well as the media. Photo shows Health Minister launching atlas and also CPMC CEO with RACGP deputy CEO Josephine Raw at the 26 November launch of the Atlas.

Medical Regulation in Australia: Joint MBA-CMC Forum



The Medical Council of New Zealand and the Medical Board of Australia jointly hosted a meeting with Colleges on the topic of revalidation on Friday 4th December 2015 in Melbourne. Every College was represented at both the President and CEO level. The President of the Australian Medical Council, Professor Jill Sewell and CEO Mr Ian Frank were also present.

CPMC News

December 2015

A very thorough overview of the current system and rationale for revalidation was provided by the MBA including current arrangements supporting safe practice in Australia. Readers will be aware that the Medical Board has opted to progress its consideration of revalidation by appointing an Expert Advisory Group to provide the technical expert advice on revalidation and how any models recommended by the group can be evaluated for effectiveness, feasibility and acceptability. It has also appointed a Consultative Committee to provide feedback on issues related to the introduction of revalidation in Australia. Dr Jo Katsoris also advised that the Board has commissioned social research into what the profession and the community expect that medical practitioners should do to demonstrate ongoing fitness and competency to practise. (You can read more by going to the following link: <http://www.medicalboard.gov.au/Registration/Revalidation.aspx> and in particular the terms of reference for each of the committees.

Philip Pigou, CEO, Medical Council of New Zealand provided an overview of revalidation (recertification) in New Zealand highlighting several key principles, such as the process must be evidenced-based, formative and informed by relevant data. The process must also be based in the doctor's actual workplace and scope of practice. It must also be profession-led because Colleges are subject-matter experts, as well as supported by employers. Revalidation should ultimately inform the Regulator that the Standard has been met, or not met, and it must conform to various statutory requirements.

The session by Professor Liz Farmer on the findings of the report on revalidation by CAMERA was well received because of the discussion on potential implications for Australia with reference to Canada. Overall the UK approach is not considered likely for the Australian context. The Medical Board has appointed Professor Farmer as the Chair of the EAG, with a remit to provide a report on an approach to revalidation for Australia within twelve months.



Photo: Front Row L-R Dr Joanne Katsoris (MBA), Phillip Pigou (CMC CEO), Dr Joanna Flynn (Chair MBA), Professor Jill Sewell (President AMC); **Back row L-R** Professor Greg Kesby (AMC), Ms Angela Magarry (CEO,CPMC), Mr Andrew Connolly (CMC) and Professor David Watters (RACS)

RACP forum: Megatrends in health with the architect of Obama Care Dr Ezekiel Emmanuel- December 9, 2015

Dr Emanuel was invited to Sydney and Newcastle as a guest of the RACP and the University of Newcastle. He is a global health expert and the forum on megatrends in health resulted in some predictions about the expansion of digital medicine, the end of health care inflation and dramatic changes to medical education. In relation to Obama Care, Dr Emanuel said it may have been a shock to most people that a market-based universal health system was more successful than expected with a big drop in the number of people without insurance coverage.



Dr Emanuel also raised the need to transform medical education. Here he is with CPMC CEO and Ms Robyn Burley of NSW Health. The RACP has listed a video of the event [Megatrends in health and medical education](#).

Ministerial Releases/Announcements

Ministerial announcement on innovation: The Australian Government will invest \$250 million over two years to help translate Australian health and medical research into commercial reality via the National Innovation and Science Agenda released 7 December 2015. Find out more at: <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2015-ley145.htm> Find out more about the Innovation Agenda at: <http://www.innovation.gov.au/>

\$630 million to be invested in Disease Cure and Prevention: Minister for Health, the Hon Sussan Ley, has announced the new investment of \$630 million to fund Australian researchers in the prevention and cure of diseases. As part of the establishment of the new Medical Research Future Fund, the money will be spread amongst approximately 2200 researchers for 836 projects. They will include PTSD treatments, dementia and cancer research, and research into various other conditions and treatments. The full press release is available below: <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2015-ley135.htm>

New Healthy Food Partnership to Encourage Healthy Eating: Minister for Rural Health, the Hon Fiona Nash, has herself announced the new Healthy Food Partnership, aimed at preventing

obesity and encouraging healthy eating. The partnership comprises of several public health lobbies, such as the Public Health Association and the Heart Foundation, and also representatives of major food companies such as Coles and Woolworths. All parties have enthusiastically welcomed the new partnership. The full press release is available

below: <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2015-nash051.htm>

Consultations on Private Health Insurance: The Australian Government is undertaking a number of reviews aimed at ensuring that consumers can access affordable, quality and timely health services into the future. The private health insurance review is focused on the value of private health insurance for consumers and its long term sustainability. Further details of the consultation process are available from www.health.gov.au Submissions close 9 December 2015.

AHPRA Annual Report 2014/15 and Revised Registration Standards

The AHPRA and National Boards annual report has just been published, and is available online to read at <http://www.ahpra.gov.au/annualreport/2015/> In addition to this, the National Boards have begun publishing revised registration standards for health practitioners which will be introduced over the next 12 months. The standards in particular are:

- Professional Indemnity Insurance arrangements
- Recency of Practice
- Continuing Professional Development

These apply to chiropractors, dental practitioners, medical practitioners, medical radiation practitioners, nurses and midwives, optometrists* (except for CPD), osteopaths, pharmacists, physiotherapists, podiatrists and psychologists* (except for PII arrangements). The revised standards will apply to applicants for renewal and most applicants for initial registration. They **do not** apply to the current cycle of renewals. More information concerning the revisions can be found at: <http://www.ahpra.gov.au/News/2015-10-30-registration-standards.aspx>

New Prostate Cancer Grading System Offers an Alternative to Gleason Scores: The International Society of Urological Pathology (ISUP) has introduced the new ISUP grading system to replace the widely used Gleason system, citing needs to update it to contemporary practices and make it more straightforward and easy to understand. Information on how the new system works can be found at: <http://epathway.rcpa.edu.au/two.html>

Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC) Schedule of Listings for 10 December 2015

Just click on the link to find out more!

[1405 - MBS Item Number for Pulmonary Rehabilitation](#)

Protocols being finalised following the Public Consultation period:

[1331- Review of archival tissue for further diagnostic testing](#)

[1360.1 - Specialist dermatology services delivered by asynchronous store and forward technology \(resubmission\)](#)

[1399 - Percutaneous Tibial Nerve Stimulation administered through the Urgent PC Neuromodulation](#)

[1400 - Clinical Neuropsychology Assessment Services](#)

[1402 - Liver Microwave Tissue Ablation](#)

[1403 - Lung Microwave Tissue Ablation](#)

[1408 - A prognostic RT-qPCR test run locally for ER+ve /HER2-ve breast cancer that determines the risk of early and late metastasis in node negative and positive cancer under endocrine treatment](#)

[1414 - PD-L1 testing for access to Pembrolizumab for the treatment of locally advanced or metastatic NSCLC](#)

Or go to <http://www.msac.gov.au/internet/msac/publishing.nsf/Content/home-1>

Health Workforce Statistics

According to a report released 26 November 2015 by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) Australia's medical workforce is growing and there are strong increases in the number of women training as specialists. You can read the media release at <http://aihw.gov.au/media-release-detail/?id=60129553709>

Australia's Medical Workforce 2014 shows there were 98,807 medical practitioners registered in Australia, with 85,510 employed as medical practitioners, an increase of 7.4% on 2012. Of this 39.4% were women, approximately a quarter of all registered were aged 55 years or older (26.9%) and the average working week was 42.5 hours and 95.3% reported working in a clinical role. As CPMC has pointed out to the government the number of domestic undergraduate medical students has risen each year by approximately 350 with 2014 reporting a total of 3,477 students at university.

Source: <http://aihw.gov.au/workforce/medical/>

CPMC meets on the following dates:

Thursday 18 February 2016: Sydney at RCPA in Surry Hills

Thursday 2nd June 2016: in Melbourne at RACS

Thursday 4 August 2016: in Sydney at RCPA in Surry Hills

Thursday 10 November 2016: in Melbourne at RANZCOG

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

