

COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS OF MEDICAL COLLEGES

DECEMBER 2018 NEWS

SEASONS GREETINGS



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College Presidents extend Seasons Greetings to all College Fellows, College staff and our Profession Observer organisations. 2018 has been a full year, with changes in College Presidents, policy developments and political change. In 2019 we will continue to work in the interests of specialist medicine in Australia and with our New Zealand colleagues to ensure the maintenance of high quality health care.

In this issue you will find information on new College Presidents, forums, updates on revalidation, and other issues of strategic importance to Colleges.

New College Presidents

CPMC welcomes the following new College Presidents to Council

Dr Heather Mack BMedSc, MBBS, MBA, PhD, FRANZCO, FRACS



The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists (**RANZCO**) has elected Dr Heather Mack to be their new President. Dr Mack is the College's first female President taking over from Associate Professor Mark Daniell.

Dr Mack is a senior consultant with a focus on visual electrophysiology and medical retinal disorders. She is a Senior Associate at Eye Surgery Associates in Melbourne.

COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS OF MEDICAL COLLEGES

Associate Professor Ewen McPhee MBBS, FACRRM, FRACGP, DRANZCOG



Dr Ewen McPhee is the Practice Principal at Emerald Medical Group, and a Queensland State Director of the RACGP National Rural Faculty, QLD. Ewen will be well known to many as a rural generalist campaigner. He took over from Professor Ruth Stewart as the President of the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM).

Associate Professor Alan Sandford AM, B.Med.Sc, MBBS, Dip RACOG, MHA, FRACMA



Alan is the Principal Medical Adviser, in Queensland Health occupying the role of Executive Director of Medical Services and Clinical Governance, North West Hospital and Health Service in Mount Isa. Alan is the President of the Royal Australasian College of Medical Administrators (RACMA) taking over from Dr Michael Cleary.

COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS OF MEDICAL COLLEGES 2018



Back Row: L-R Dr Heather Mack (RANZCO), Dr John Batten (RACS), Dr Ray Raper (CICM), A/Prof Ewen McPhee (ACRRM), Dr Adam Castricum (ACSEP), Dr Simon Judkins (ACEM), Dr Rod Mitchell (ANZCA), Ms Angela Magarry (CPMC), A/Prof Mark Lane (RACP). **Front Row L-R** Dr Kym Jenkins (RANZCP), Dr Philip Truskett (CPMC Chair), Dr Andrew Miller (ACD), A/Prof Alan Sandford (RACMA)

Council met on 15th November at Governor Macquarie Tower, Sydney hosted by the RACP.

COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS OF MEDICAL COLLEGES

Australia's First National Rural Health Summit



On 19th November 2018 Senator the Hon. Bridget McKenzie, Minister for Regional Services convened the first ever Rural Medical Specialist Training Summit to discuss how to improve regionally based medical specialist training. Dr John Batten (RACS) presented for CPMC with solutions to improve distribution of quality specialists. Summit Communique is at:

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing/content/work-spec>

L-R: Dr Andrew Miller (ACD), Angela Magarry (CPMC), Senator McKenzie, Dr Ray Raper (CICM) and Dr Anne Tonkin (MBA)

National Rural Generalist Pathway Develops



Australia's National Rural Health Commissioner Professor Paul Worley has completed his consultations and provided the policy advice to the Minister for consideration as part of the development of a Rural Generalist medical practitioner. In this photo Professor Worley speaks with members of the Australian Medical Council in Launceston. Professor Worley's

advice is that the future for rural generalism has to be led by the specialist medical profession and viewed as a specialised field within general practice, not creating a new specialty somehow separate. To find out more about the rural generalist pathway please access:

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-medialrel-yr2018-mckenzie012.htm>

Independent Accreditation Systems Review final report

Health Ministers have released the Final report of the Independent Review of Accreditation Systems within the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for Health Professionals. It contains a number of recommendations to reform the accreditation system for regulated health professions in Australia. Further stakeholder consultation will occur on the costs, benefits and risks of implementing the recommendations and the proposed governance models. Health Ministers have agreed to the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council undertaking further analysis of the recommendations proposed by the Final Report and the development of a project plan for implementation, which will be subject to Health Ministers' agreement.

You can find it at: <http://www.coaghealthcouncil.gov.au/Portals/0/ASReview%20FINAL%20Report.pdf>

COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS OF MEDICAL COLLEGES

Medical Board of Australia Update



The Medical Board of Australia new Chair Dr Anne Tonkin reported to the recent CPMC meeting on the current situation with regards to several policy development processes the Board is overseeing. Work in relation to the Revalidation for Medical Practitioners, now termed **Professional Performance Framework** continues with the Board's Implementation Working Group providing overall direction and oversight of the implementation of the Framework.

The Board's CPD Advisory Group is working on a **revised CPD registration standard** and is developing the principles for '**CPD homes**'. The Board will consult widely on the draft revised registration standard when the CPD Advisory Group has finished its work. They are selecting a provider to provide the clinical advice to support the **Health Checks for Over 70s** aspect of the PPF. The Board also intends to establish an Older Practitioners' Reference Group. The Board will run another stakeholder workshop in early 2019 about the Framework once proposals have been developed. CPMC welcomes the Board's commitment to seek College's input as this work progresses.

Guidelines on recognising new or amended medical specialities

The Board and the Australian Medical Council (AMC) have recently published guidelines on the process for recognising a new or amended medical specialty under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory. Under the National Law, the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Health Council decides whether to approve a medical specialty, on the recommendation of the Medical Board. Specialist registration can only be granted in a specialty that has been approved by the COAG Health Council. The current list of specialties, fields of specialty practice and specialist titles for the medical profession, as approved by the COAG Health Council, is published on the Board's website. Go to: https://amc-cms-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/files/8a3138621a80dbf70785e199579ce1ba3514f9a5_original.pdf

The Board and AHPRA are continuing the work to implement a **National Training Survey (NTS)** for Doctors in training.

Amendments to the National Law have been approved by Health Ministers (Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Amendment (Tranche 1A) Bill) with the Bill to include mandatory reporting provisions and amendments to increase monetary penalties and the introduction of custodial sentences of up to 3 years for offences committed by people who hold themselves out to be a registered health practitioner, including those who use reserved professional titles or carry out restricted practices when not registered. The Bill is in the Queensland Parliament.

Tribunal links on the public register: Since March 2018 the Medical Board has been publishing links to disciplinary decisions by courts and tribunals when there has been an adverse finding about a doctor. This approach will now apply progressively to all registered health practitioners when serious allegations have been proven. All National Boards will include links to public tribunal decisions on the public register when serious allegations have been proven, in the interests of transparency. The Board will only publish tribunal decisions where there has been an adverse finding, and not any other information about the notifications received by National Boards and AHPRA.

COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS OF MEDICAL COLLEGES

Australian Commission on Safety & Quality in Healthcare launches 3rd Atlas of Variation



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The Commission has released the third in the Atlas of Variation series which documents variation in care and treatment patterns depending upon where people live, and suggests actions to reduce unwarranted variation. The Atlas uses routinely collected data and maps variation in care. The 3rd Atlas contains findings in relation to paediatrics, cardiac tests, thyroid and gastrointestinal investigations and treatment. You can read more at: <https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/Atlas/> CPMC issued a release to the website and on twitter: <https://cpmc.edu.au/media-release/improving-appropriateness-of-care-for-all-australians/>

Indigenous Health Update

Congratulations are extended to Dr Kristopher Rallah-Baker, new President of the Australian Indigenous Doctor's Association taking over from Dr Kali Hayward at AIDA 2018. The successful collaboration between the Australian Government, AIDA, NACCHO and CPMC continues with work occurring in relation to workforce and cultural safety. AIDA plans on conducting a cultural safety workshop in 2019.

CPMC dates for 2019

<https://cpmc.edu.au/about-us/meetings/>

CPMC National Office will close from 21st December and re-open 21st January 2019.