

COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS OF MEDICAL COLLEGES

CPMC NEWSLETTER APRIL 2019

Chair's Welcome to the CPMC News



I welcome you to the April 2019 CPMC News.

Statement on Christchurch

The Council of Presidents of Medical Colleges wishes to extend its concern to all those affected by the Christchurch shooting event and express appreciation for the dedication and professionalism shown by all of the emergency workers, police, hospital staff and the public in response to the incident.

The first quarter of the year has been busy for CPMC and the specialist Medical Colleges. At the February CPMC meeting Council released a statement on the Federal Budget, another on Anti-Discrimination and Bullying, and discussed the legislative changes to mandatory reporting. See these at: <https://cpmc.edu.au/about-us/policy-statements/>

I am pleased to announce that CPMC has re-established the **Education Subcommittee** with representation from College Presidents, CEOs, Fellows and trainees which will focus on developing policy in relation to specialist medical education. An update will be provided after its first meeting.

Medical Education and Training is the core business of specialist Medical Colleges. CPMC is represented on the National Medical Training Advisory Network at College President and CPMC levels. The NMTAN has welcomed the development of a **national medical workforce strategy**. CPMC commends the work of the Department of Health in the development of the HeadsUp tool.

The May 18, 2019 General Election is likely to feature a strong campaign on Health given the focus shown in the Budget by the Government and post-Budget reply. CPMC welcomed the investment into Medicare and support for primary care, Indigenous and rural health.

Finally I welcome the election of Dr Kym Jenkins, President RANZCP to the Chair-elect position and also as Chair of the Education Subcommittee. Dr Jenkins will oversee the Education Subcommittee and deputise for CPMC Chair as required.

Dr Philip Truskett AM, Chair, CPMC

Welcoming CPMC Chair –Elect: Dr Kym Jenkins



Council Members elected Dr Jenkins as Chair-elect for 2019 and to assume the Chair role in November 2019. Congratulations to Dr Jenkins who is currently the President, Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists. Dr Jenkins works in public and private psychiatry practice in Melbourne. You can find out more about her at:

<https://cpmc.edu.au/about-us/contact-us/> and at the RANZCP website: <https://www.ranzcp.org/about-us/about-the-college/key-people#KJenkins>

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2019 College Presidents



2019 College Presidents met at the Australasian College for Emergency Medicine in February.

L-R Dr Simon Judkins (ACEM), Dr Vijay Roach (RANZCOG), Dr Ray Raper (CICMANZ), Dr Jenkins (RANZCP), CPMC CEO, Dr Rod Mitchell (ANZCA), Professor Bruce Latham (RCPA), A/Prof. Ewen McPhee (ACRRM), Dr Philip Truskett (Chair), Dr Harry Nespolon (RACGP), Dr Louise Tulloh (ACSEP), Professor Brendan Murphy (CMO, Dr Heather Mack (RANZCO), Assoc. Professor Mark Lane (RACP), Assoc. Professor Alan Sandford (RACMA).

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS UPDATE

****Federal Election Called for Saturday 18 May 2019****

Read the continuous blog on the ABC at: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/politics/>
Liberal Coalition website policies at: <https://www.liberal.org.au/our-plan/health>
Australian Labor Party policies at: <https://www.alp.org.au/labors-fair-go-action-plan/>
Australian Electoral Commission: <https://www.aec.gov.au/>

FEDERAL BUDGET 2019: WELCOMED BUT DISAPPOINTING NO PREVENTIVE CARE \$

In February this year the Council released a call to all parties to commit to system improvement by re-investing in the public hospital system and focussing on primary care by re-capitalising general practice to lift the MBS freeze and provide great incentives. You can read the CPMC budget submission press release at: <https://cpmc.edu.au/media-release/2019-general-election-a-time-to-reinvest-in-health-care/> The 2019-20 Federal Budget was broadly welcomed for its focus on the sustainability and access to Medicare, with an increase to the low-income threshold for singles, families, senior and pensioners from this year. The development of a more sustainable medical

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workforce is central to keeping Australians healthy, but meeting the health care needs of rural and regional Australians has been a challenge. CPMC called for funding for the development of the rural generalist pathway and is pleased an investment of more than \$60M will be made to develop it. The particulars relating to the \$6 billion investment in Medicare; \$1.1 billion in primary care; \$40 billion provision for medicines; \$1.25 billion for the Community Health and Hospitals Program; and \$7 billion for aged care can be explored in the links provided by the Department of Health.

- [Guaranteeing Medicare and access to medicines](#)
- [Supporting our hospitals](#)
- [Prioritising mental health, preventive health and sport](#)
- [Life saving and job creating medical research](#)
- [Ageing and aged care](#)

While stakeholders such as the AMA and AHHA have welcomed the Budget generally it is disappointing that preventive health care such as measures to combat obesity and fund dental care have been overlooked. **You can read CPMC press release here:** <https://cpmc.edu.au/media-release/federal-budget-2019-2020-strengthening-access-to-health-care/>

COAG Health Council Update Accreditation Systems Review: In October last year Health Ministers released the Final Report of the Independent Review of Accreditation Systems within the NRAS for the Health Professions. See www.coaghealthcouncil.gov.au The medical profession and stakeholders have received the report with some concern as while there is support for making recommendations which improve the transparency, accountability, effectiveness and efficiency in the system of accreditation, the concern rests with adopting mechanisms which do not accommodate material profession-specific differences and maintain the independence of regulation. There is a potential for the current system of accreditation to be altered unnecessarily and this may also include higher costs and a stifling of innovation. Implementation is still subject to Health Ministers' agreement and we look forward to the next steps in consultation.

GENERAL PRACTICE UPDATE: applications open for 2020

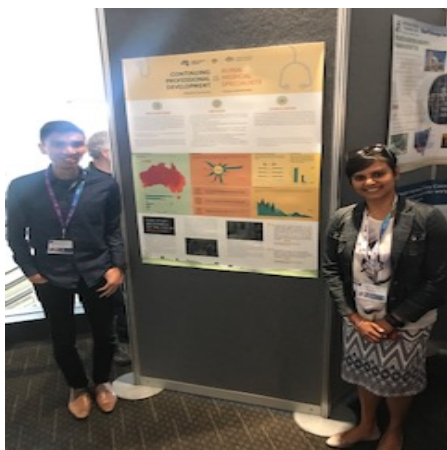
The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) signed an agreement with the Federal Government to select candidates for and oversee the delivery of the Australian General Practice Training (AGPT) Program. Applications for the 2020 program are open till 29 April 2019. Find out more at: https://www.racgp.org.au/education/students/starting-the-gp-journey/australian-general-practice-training-program/agpt?utm_source=Link&utm_campaign=agpt

RURAL HEALTH UPDATE

Support for Rural Specialists in Australia: Record Number of Applications!

CPMC manages the Commonwealth funded program via the Royal Australasian College of Physicians where the Program Management Unit is based. This popular program provides individual grants for rural and remote specialists to undertake continuing professional development (CPD). SRSA built upon the successful RHCE program. Funding Rounds two and three have closed; Funding Round 3 is still going in terms of recipient processing. Funding Round 4 closed for applications on 31st March and the assessment process is underway. It is clear the program is popular as SRSA applications have doubled in demand for access to available funds. See: www.ruralspecialist.org.au for more details including e-learning modules.

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National Rural Health Alliance Conference 2019 – a Success for CPMC-SRSA Grant Program

The CPMC managed Commonwealth grant program *Support for Rural Specialists in Australia* had a booth and poster at the recent Hobart NRHA conference. In this photo is Mr Bernard Bucalon, National Program Manager & Ms Sarah Srikanthan, Admin Officer. After almost five years, Sarah will leave the program in mid-April to take up a new role and CPMC wishes to thank her for her work.

MEDICAL EDUCATION LEADERSHIP UPDATE

Tri-Nation Alliance 2019 a Success in Auckland, New Zealand



The tri-nation Alliance is a formal collaboration between medical colleges in Australia, New Zealand and Canada. It was formed in 2010 by the Royal Australasian College of Physicians, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons Canada, and the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons; in association with the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists and the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists. The International Medical Symposium 2019 was held at Aotea Centre, Auckland, New Zealand with the theme, visioning the impact of advanced technology on medical

education. Artificial Intelligence and robotics, and data capture are all issues hospitals and health administrators need to address and as the technology extends into treatment processes, so do specialist Medical Colleges. CPMC attended along with 50+ participants. A communique will be issued by the Tri-Nation College lead in due course.

INDIGENOUS HEALTH UPDATE: CLOSING THE GAP A Joint Council on Closing the Gap has been formed comprised of 12 representatives elected by the Coalition of National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peak Bodies, a Minister nominated by the Commonwealth and Ministers from each state and territory government and one representative from the Australian Local Government Association. The first meeting took place after the signing of the historic Partnership Agreement. The Closing the Gap strategy is being re-designed for implementation, monitoring and involves these peak bodies directly. The Coalition of the Peaks is a large Council comprising forty Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled organisations that have come together to negotiate with governments and be signatories to the Partnership Agreement. Roadmaps are under development for health conditions. You can read more about this via NACCHO website:

<https://www.naccho.org.au/joint-council-meeting-marks-a-new-beginning-for-closing-the-gap/>

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COLLABORATION The CPMC, Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association and the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations Collaboration Partnership will meet on 12 April 2019 to discuss the collaboration and next steps mindful of the new government framework for action.

Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association Conference 2019 Each year specialist Medical Colleges attend the AIDA conference. This year it is in Darwin 2-4 October. See more as it develops at: <https://www.aida.org.au/events/calendar/aida-conference-2018/>

Leaders in Medical Education Conference 2019 The Leaders in Indigenous Medical Education (LIME) biennial conference, The LIME Connection VIII will be held on 5-8 November 2019, in Otautahi/Christchurch, Aotearoa/New Zealand. The event will be hosted by The University of Otago. This year's theme is '**Pouhine Poutama: Embedding Indigenous Health Education**'. The conference will encourage strengths-based presentations relating to Indigenous health teaching and learning, curriculum development and research; community engagement; and the recruitment and graduation of Indigenous students in the health professions. Early bird registration closes 23rd August!

NEW ZEALAND HEALTH REVIEW UPDATE

Taking Submissions: The New Zealand Minister of Health, Dr David Clark, announced a wide-ranging review of the New Zealand health and disability services to future-proof. Ms Heather Simpson was appointed as Chair of the review. The overall assessment of the system is one under pressure and facing a rapidly changing global, societal and technological context so the review is considered timely. The review is engaging with the various stakeholders and will develop a set of recommendations to feed into an interim report due in August 2019 and a final report by March 2020. CMC New Zealand next meeting 23rd May, 2019: Wellington, NZ. <https://cmc.org.nz/> for dates and other information.

Australasian College of Sport & Exercise Physicians Concussion Guidelines

The ACSEP is proud to be part of Concussion in Sport Australia, producing the recent Position Statement at: <https://www.acsep.org.au/page/resources/position-statements/concussion-in-sport>

CPMC Professions Observer Forum Moves to Half Day from 17 May meeting

