



The Royal Australasian
College of Physicians

Media statement

RACP welcomes global climate deal

14 December 2015

The Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) welcomes the historic global climate deal reached at Paris' COP21 yesterday.

RACP President, Laureate Professor Nick Talley said the deal is a game-changer in the fight against climate change.

"The RACP has been pushing hard for real action on climate change. This deal will have positive implications for the health of every individual in the world.

"It is pleasing to see that the momentum building in the medical community has been heard at the highest levels of politics," he said.

The RACP coordinated and presented a global consensus statement, endorsed by 68 international health and medical bodies, at the Climate and Health Summit 2015 held in Paris last week.

The statement calls for urgent action to combat the damaging health impacts of climate change.

The RACP took the lead by demanding action on climate change through the global campaign *Doctors for Climate Action*, which called for world leaders to commit to real action on climate change at COP21.

Professor Talley said the world can no longer ignore the health impacts of climate change.

"Increases in the frequency and severity of heatwaves, bushfires, droughts and floods will have potentially devastating health impacts, putting vulnerable people including children, the elderly and those suffering with chronic illnesses at heightened risk of exhaustion, heatstroke and more serious health complications such as renal failure," he said.

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About The Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP): The RACP trains, educates and advocates on behalf of more than 15,000 physicians and 7,500 trainee physicians across Australia and New Zealand. The College represents a broad range of medical specialties including general medicine, paediatrics and child health, cardiology, respiratory medicine, neurology, oncology, public health medicine, occupational and environmental medicine, palliative medicine, sexual health medicine, rehabilitation medicine, geriatric medicine and addiction medicine. Beyond the drive for medical excellence, the RACP is committed to developing health and social policies which bring vital improvements to the wellbeing of patients. The College offers 60 training pathways. These lead to the award of one of seven qualifications that align with 45 specialist titles recognised by the Medical Board of Australia or allow for registration in nine vocational scopes with the Medical Council of New Zealand.