

COMMUNIQUE

College Council

of The Royal Australasian College of Physicians

The College Council met in person and virtually on 1 September 2026.

Key Outcomes

Honorary Fellowship Recommendation

Following consideration of a nomination for Honorary Fellowship, College Council unanimously resolved to recommend a candidate to the Board for admission as an Honorary Fellow.

College Council also identified opportunities to strengthen future nomination processes through greater transparency and consistency.

What this means for members: College Council is committed to ensuring recognition processes are fair, transparent, and reflective of the diverse contributions made by non-members.

Strategy Day Outcomes and Governance Priorities

College Council agreed that strengthening governance literacy, member engagement, and communication across the College should remain key priorities. Members emphasised the need for clear and consistent communication about governance decisions and strategic priorities.

What this means for members: Members can expect a continued focus on improving how governance decisions, priorities, and strategic initiatives are communicated and implemented, helping members better understand their purpose, progress, and impact.

Strengthening Member and Regional Perspectives

Feedback from the Western Australian and Queensland Committees highlighted the vital role regional members play in shaping College education, policy, advocacy, and workforce priorities. Workforce sustainability, trainee support, and access to rural and regional training opportunities emerged as key areas of focus.

What this means for members: Regional and jurisdictional perspectives will continue to inform College training priorities, advocacy, and workforce planning, helping ensure College decisions reflect the needs of members across Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.

Advocacy and Workforce Priorities

Updates from the Office of the Dean and Policy and Advocacy portfolio highlighted a range of issues impacting physicians, trainees, and patients across Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand. College Council reaffirmed the importance of evidence-based advocacy on matters that directly impact members, including workforce shortages, physician wellbeing, training capacity, Indigenous health, health equity, and preventive health.

What this means for members: These priorities will continue to guide the College's advocacy efforts and support improvements in working environments, training pathways, and patient outcomes.

Enhancing Member Value

Feedback on the RACP Member Benefits Program supported continued growth and promotion of initiatives that provide practical value to members. Opportunities were identified to increase awareness of available benefits, improve access to professional development and wellbeing supports, and ensure the program continues to respond to member needs.

What this means for members: Work will continue to strengthen the professional, educational, and wellbeing benefits available throughout a member's career, maximising the value of College membership.

Pathway to Equitable Governance

College Council reaffirmed its commitment to advancing cultural safety, equity, and Indigenous governance perspectives across the College. Members highlighted the importance of ongoing governance development and engagement opportunities for College Council members, committees, and emerging governance leaders.

What this means for members: Continued investment in governance development and engagement activities will support a more inclusive, representative, and effective governance structure for the College community.

Interventional Radiology & Interventional Neuroradiology

College Council considered recent discussions regarding interventional radiology and interventional neuroradiology and the potential impacts on training pathways and models of care. College Council highlighted the importance of a coordinated binational approach and broad stakeholder consultation before future positions are established.

Committee Adaptation Initiative

College Council supported progressing broader member consultation on the Committee Adaptation Initiative, subject to further refinement of consultation materials. Members identified an opportunity to strengthen member participation in governance by ensuring future committee structures are transparent, inclusive, effective, and aligned with the evolving needs of members and the College.

What this means for members: Members will have opportunities to contribute feedback to help shape how they participate and contribute to College governance.

Governance Matters

College Council also:

- approved appointments to the South Australian, Northern Territory, and Queensland committees;
- noted progress against the 2026 College Council work plan;
- noted approval of amendments to the College Council By-law; and
- received updates from Aotearoa New Zealand, Te Waka Hauora, State and Territory Committees, and other reporting bodies.

Planning for 2027 work plans is now underway.

College Council remains committed to ensuring member perspectives continue to inform advocacy, policy development, and governance decision-making across the College.

Questions or feedback are welcomed via Council@racp.edu.au

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