



The Royal Australasian
College of Physicians

DIARY NOTE

RACP rallies medical community on health impacts of climate change

Next Monday, 12 October, Australia's largest medical college, the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) will lead a day of an international action to raise awareness of the health impacts of climate change.

With the global support of nearly 50 medical organisations, the RACP's 'Day of Global Action' marks the start of a campaign to commit world leaders to meaningful action ahead of the United Nations Climate Change Conference, COP21, in Paris in December.

Endorsing organisations are signatories to the RACP's [Global Consensus Statement](#) which highlights the health impacts of climate change.

At the 'Day of Global Action', topics for discussion will include:

- Significant increases in heat-related illnesses and deaths
- Increases in water-borne and vector-borne diseases
- Increases in cardiovascular and respiratory diseases resulting from deterioration in air quality
- Increased mortality due to extreme weather events

Spokespeople available for media interview in Australia:

Laureate Professor Nick Talley

President of The Royal Australasian College of Physicians and Pro Vice-Chancellor and Professor
University of Newcastle

Dr Ashwin Swaminathan

Infectious Diseases Physician based in Canberra, Australian National University Medical School
Senior Lecturer

Dr Kate Charlesworth

Public Health Physician based in Sydney, worked at the Sustainable Development Unit in the UK
which is a world-leading unit tasked with reducing the carbon footprint of the National Health Service
(NHS)

Ends

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About The Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP): The RACP trains, educates and advocates on behalf of more than 14,950 physicians – often referred to as medical specialists – and 6,530 Trainee members across Australia and New Zealand. The College represents more than 34 medical specialties including paediatrics & child health, cardiology, respiratory medicine, neurology, oncology and public health medicine, occupational & environmental medicine, palliative medicine, sexual health medicine, rehabilitation 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. www.racp.edu.au