



The Royal Australasian  
College of Physicians

## Media Alert

### **International speakers address the future of rehabilitation medicine at the AFRM/NZRA Combined Rehabilitation Meeting 2015**

7 October 2015

Leading international and Australasian rehabilitation experts will share the latest research and innovations in rehabilitation medicine at the Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine and New Zealand Rehabilitation Association (AFRM/NZRA) Combined Rehabilitation Meeting in Wellington next week.

The meeting 'Building an Enabling Society' will be held at the InterContinental Hotel, Wellington, between Tuesday, 13 and Saturday, 17 October 2015.

Highlights of the program include:

- rehabilitation in the context of natural disasters
- innovations in stroke rehabilitation, including robotics and virtual reality
- reconsidering rehabilitation from a Māori perspective
- cross-cultural considerations for pain management in Australasia
- enabling a good life through contemporary disability support
- using rehabilitation to reduce societal disability

Prominent speakers include:

- Dr Barbara Gibson (US), Chair of the Bloorview Children's Hospital Foundation, Canada's largest children's rehabilitation hospital
- Professor Derek Wade (UK), who has been the editor of *Clinical Rehabilitation* since 1994, writing articles for over 35 years and producing over 200 peer reviewed articles
- Mr Paul Gibson (NZ), New Zealand Disability Rights Commissioner and President of the New Zealand Disabled Person's Assembly
- Distinguished Professor Richard Faull (NZ), Director of the Centre for Brain Research at the University of Auckland
- Dr Hinemoa Elder (NZ), a Professorial Fellow in Indigenous Research who has developed theory for young Maori with traumatic brain injury
- Dr Martin Sullivan (NZ), who developed the first postgraduate program in Disability Studies in New Zealand.

**Ends**

**Media registration:** To register your interest in attending the AFRM/NZRA Combined Rehabilitation Meeting 2015 and/or to receive media releases, please contact Sophie Treneman on (+61) 2 8076 6337 or [sophie.treneman@racp.edu.au](mailto:sophie.treneman@racp.edu.au).

For the full conference program, please see the [AFRM/NZRA Combined Rehabilitation Meeting website](#).

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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](http://www.racp.edu.au)