



The Royal Australasian  
College of Physicians

## Media Statement

### **RACP welcomes National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Implementation Plan**

23 October 2015

The Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) today welcomed the Australian Government's *Implementation Plan for the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan*, to progress the actions needed to make health equality a reality.

RACP President Elect Dr Catherine Yelland congratulated the Government's commitment to improving access to specialist care.

"We are pleased that the Implementation Plan recognises the need for a national framework to drive improvements in access to specialised care for First Australians.

"We know the low-use of specialist services is a contributing factor to the health gap and it is crucial that we address this.

"This Implementation Plan provides a clear roadmap for action going forward. It provides a solid base to act upon and to ensure that the National Health Plan is realised, Dr Yelland said.

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