



The Royal Australasian
College of Physicians

Media Release

RACP calls on clinicians to partner in health care reform

18 September 2015

The Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) today highlighted the key role that clinicians play in healthcare reform by reviewing evolving evidence and ensuring this is reflected in clinical practice.

Speaking at the 2015 Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, RACP President Laureate Professor Nick Talley said Australian clinicians have the opportunity to lead the way in minimising practices of limited value to their patients.

“Today we are asking clinicians to partner with us in ‘EVOLVE’, a program that the RACP has designed that encourages medical societies to develop evidence-based lists of the top five ineffective or low-value practices to ensure the best care for each patient’s needs,” he said.

“Based on these lists, the RACP will work with specialists, the broader medical profession and the community to promote this important evolution in clinical practice and ensure the care provided to patients is of the highest quality and effectiveness.

“The EVOLVE initiative is building momentum for change through clinical leadership, in-depth engagement with front-line physicians, and strong connections with the community.”

The RACP is already working with 16 medical specialist societies to develop their lists of five low-value interventions that will lead to changes in clinical practice.

“We encourage all medical societies to join with us in making the same commitment.”

Professor Talley said that through the creation of the Primary Health Care Review and the Medical Benefits Schedule Review Taskforce we have a further opportunity to advance the cause of quality of care in Australia.

“The challenge now, is for clinicians to make the most of the opportunities for change, and contribute to ensuring that change is focused on high quality, patient-centred care.”

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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