



The Royal Australasian
College of Physicians

Media Release

Medical profession has important role in health care reform

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The Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) today highlighted the active reform role that clinicians are taking in reviewing their clinical practice to ensure it reflects evolving evidence and best practice.

Last night ABC TV's 4 Corners program featured a special report from Dr Norman Swan about the impact of unnecessary and ineffective procedures on the Australian health system.

RACP President Laureate Professor Nick Talley said it is important to embrace opportunities for change to ensure that the health system supports high quality and individualised patient care.

"The RACP is working in partnership with specialist medical societies on an 'EVOLVE' initiative to develop evidence-based lists of ineffective and unnecessary practices and procedures, and reduce their use to ensure the best care for each patient's needs.

"EVOLVE will lead to improved knowledge and changes in clinical practice that will benefit patients and ensure they get the treatment they need, when they need it.

"Through the creation of the Primary Health Care Review and the Medical Benefits Schedule Review Taskforce we have a further opportunity to advance the delivery of high-quality, patient-centred care in Australia," Professor Talley 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