



The Royal Australasian
College of Physicians

Media Statement

19 March 2015

RACP WELCOMES FUNDING FOR SPECIALIST TRAINING PROGRAM

The Royal Australasian College of Physicians today welcomed the Federal Government's announcement to continue its commitment to fund the Specialist Training Program in 2016.

"This important program is vital to ensuring a specialist workforce to meet Australia's future health needs," RACP President, Laureate Professor Nicholas Talley said.

"We are delighted that the Federal Government recognises the Specialist Training Program as an essential program."

"The program has been tremendously valuable over the past 18 years, producing high quality specialist trainees to meet the needs of a growing workforce demand."

"Importantly, more than half of the College's 356 Specialist Training Positions rotate through rural and remote areas and nearly one quarter directly target need in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities."

"The RACP is keen to continue consultation with the Federal Government to ensure this crucial program continues into the future to meet the health needs of all Australians."

Ends

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About The Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP): The RACP trains, educates and advocates on behalf of more than 14,600 physicians – often referred to as medical specialists – and 6,000 Trainee members across Australia and New Zealand. The College represents more than 32 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