25 September 2018

Sal First Name Surname + post-nominal/s

Company

Add1

Add2

Add3

Suburb State Postcode

Via Email:

Dear [insert name],

**Kids off Nauru**

I am writing to you as a [paediatrician or specialist] practising in [suburb or electorate]. Paediatricians are urging Australian Parliamentarians to support the immediate transfer all refugee and asylum seeker children and their families from Nauru to Australia for health reasons.

Recent media has reported on the deteriorating mental and physical health of child detainees at the Nauru immigration detention facility, and extremely concerning cases of delayed medical transfers of seriously unwell children to Australia. Children and their families need an urgent assessment in a specialist tertiary level child health facility, where their medical, developmental and social-emotional (psychiatric) health can be assessed and treated in accordance with specialist recommendations. No child should be separated from their family and carers, who also require specialist medical attention.

The Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) joins 180 other organisations and individuals who call on the Australian Government to release refugee and asylum seeker children and their families from Nauru by Universal Children's Day (20 November). Offshore detention of children and families seeking asylum contravenes Australia’s responsibilities under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, in particular, the right to health.

The RACP’s Refugee and Asylum Seeker Health Position Statement (enclosed) sets out a strong evidence-based opposition to held immigration detention, particularly of children, and the need to ensure access to quality health care. The Position Statement has been endorsed by 14 Medical and Nursing Colleges and Peak Health organisations across Australasia.

As a [paediatrician or specialist], I want to help ensure that these children receive the care they urgently need.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss these issues with you in person. I look forward to speaking to a member of your staff in the near future to organise a convenient meeting time.

Yours sincerely

[Your name]

Encl:

RACP Refugee and Asylum seeker health position statement