11 May 2018

Sal First Name Surname + post-nominal/s

Company

Add1

Add2

Add3

Suburb State Postcode

Via Email:

Dear [insert name],

**Tackling child health inequities in Australia**

I am writing to you as a paediatrician practising in [suburb or electorate]. Paediatricians want to make the health system fairer and see an end to child health inequities in Australia, and we need your help.

The disadvantage many children experience means they are at increased risk for chronic issues across health, wellbeing and development. Child health inequities are increasing; 2015 research from the Australian Early Development Census demonstrated that around 1 in 5 children were developmentally vulnerable on one or more domains of early childhood development. These gaps widen as children grow up resulting in poorer adult health, educational and vocational outcomes, and can have an intergenerational effect.

[consider adding a deidentified story or case study based on your clinical experience]

We believe that all levels of government must take action on child health inequities to ensure that every child has the same opportunity to live a healthy life. There is strong evidence that investment in the early years is the most cost effective step to tackle adult health inequity – and the broader return on this investment for society includes economic benefits, workforce inclusion and crime reduction.

The Paediatrics and Child Health Division of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians has published a fact sheet and position statement on inequities in child health (enclosed) that outlines the problem and the actions that need to be taken to achieve fairer access to healthcare and more equitable health outcomes for all Australian children.

As a paediatrician, I want to help ensure that all children in [your suburb/electorate] achieve the best possible health and development outcomes.

[consider adding a specific ask or issue that is relevant to your local area – and the MP’s local electorate based on your clinical experience]

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:

Fact sheet – Fair healthcare for every child

RACP Inequities in child health position statement