



## Advanced Training Forum, 5 May 2014 Summary

### **Background**

The forum attendees heard presentations on:

- **Priority Projects for 2014** by Professor John Wilson, College Education Committee, RACP
- **Defining Capacity to Train** by Dr Jonathan Christiansen, College Education Committee, RACP
- **A Capacity to Train Model** by Dr Marie-Louise Stokes, Director of Education, RACP
- **Future Strategies: Advocacy** by Caroline Turnour, Director of Policy and Advocacy, RACP

The [slides](#) and [participant packs](#) associated with each of the above presentations are available to view on the [RACP Share site](#).

### **Key Discussion Points**

- The priority project areas for the College in 2014 were identified as AMC/MCNZ reaccreditation, Professionalism project, Selection into Training, Advanced Training research projects and Standards for Assessment.
- Consideration was given to the different “lenses” through which Capacity to Train can be viewed. A general consensus was reached that the most important “lens” was that of training physicians according to a balance between **quality** (ensuring the training leaves physicians adequately equipped for specialist practice) and **volume** (meeting the needs of an increasing population of medical graduates).
- The role of the supervisor in providing quality support and up to date information about training program requirements was discussed as a key focus area. To date 20% of supervisors have attended one or more of the Supervisor Professional Development Program workshops, and consideration should be given to increasing this percentage in line with the growth in volume of trainees.
- A capacity to train model showing the overlap between the workplace, the College and the wider context of health was presented and a case study outlining some of the challenges faced by supervisors and clinical directors in large teaching hospitals was discussed.
- Delegates considered the information required to develop an effective advocacy strategy to support the delivery of quality education and supervision at training sites.



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### ***Concerns and Suggestions***

The following points below were raised throughout the day:

- The difficulties for supervisors are compounded by the challenges of activity based funding and the lack of financial support for educational activities in the current funding structures.
- Delegates supported the value of discussing advocacy for training to ensure that the education needs of trainees were reflected within health budgets but felt more information would be required to develop a successful advocacy strategy.
- Delegates appreciated the availability of pre-reading but felt that more comprehensive material provided earlier would assist in ensuring that forum members arrived better prepared to discuss key issues.
- The importance of good relationships between the College and the various specialty societies was again highlighted and delegates encouraged the College to consider meeting with societies to establish a better transfer of information.
- Delegates felt that the opportunity to discuss “top of mind” issues was a useful start to the forum. There was a request for additional pre-reading or a communique relating to CEC level issues to guide these conversations in future.

### ***Summary and next steps***

- The information and feedback resulting from activities and discussions at the Forum will be used to develop a “Capacity to Train” scoping paper. This paper will be distributed for consultation later in the year.
- A communique will be sent as part of pre-reading prior to the next Forum with an overview of College developments and relevant CEC level information.
- Further consideration will be given to strategies for improving relationships with specialty societies including meetings to establish effective communication channels.
- A date for the next Advanced Training Forum will be set for October/November 2014. The topic will be assessments.