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ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## **RACS supports ‘one-way-door policy’**

**Monday 9 November, 2015**

The Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) commends work by Brisbane Surgeon Anthony Lynham and the Queensland Government in advocating for reduced late-night trade hours in Queensland.

RACS Queensland Committee Chair, Professor Owen Ung, said that the College supports moves to implement the lock-out laws.

“Evidence has shown that similar lock-out laws in Sydney and Newcastle hotspots have had a direct impact in reducing alcohol-related emergency admissions,” Professor Ung said.

“We are encouraged that Dr Lynham, a former member of the College’s Trauma Committee, continues to push reforms along with the great support of the Premier, Attorney General and the Health Minister.

“Alcohol-fuelled violence can result in tragedy that we too often see in our hospital emergency rooms throughout Queensland,” Professor Ung said.

RACS remains strongly committed to three key areas where alcohol-related harm can most effectively be reduced, summarised by the acronym HOT – for Hours, Outlets and Taxes.

This encompasses a restriction trading hours, reducing outlet density, and applying a stepped volumetric tax on alcohol.

### **About the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS)**

RACS is the leading advocate for surgical standards, professionalism and surgical education in Australia and New Zealand. The College is a not-for-profit organisation that represents more than 7000 surgeons and 1300 surgical trainees and International Medical Graduates. RACS also supports healthcare and surgical education in the Asia-Pacific region and is a substantial funder of surgical research. There are nine surgical specialties in Australasia being: Cardiothoracic surgery, General surgery, Neurosurgery, Orthopaedic surgery, Otolaryngology Head-and-Neck surgery, Paediatric surgery, Plastic and Reconstructive surgery, Urology and Vascular surgery.

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