



## **RACS welcomes findings into Family Violence Royal Commission**

**Wednesday 30 March, 2016**

The Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) applauds the Victorian Government for its decision to implement the recommendations handed down from the Royal Commission into Family Violence today.

In particular RACS supports the recommendation around the supply and regulation of alcohol and the strengthening of data collection.

Today the Andrews Labor Government agreed to implement all 227 recommendations from the Royal Commission report.

This includes recommendation number 93, to ensure the review of the *Liquor Control Reform Act 1998* relating to the supply and regulation of alcohol.

“It’s vital that the government takes steps to reduce alcohol-related harm in Victoria,” said RACS Victorian Regional Chair Jason Chuen.

“We support a review of the Liquor Control Reform Act which is based on policies of public health and safety because when people drink, how people drink and where people drink influences alcohol-related violence and other alcohol-related harms.

“A review of the Act is a key step towards creating a safer, healthier culture around alcohol in Victoria.”

The policies most effective at reducing alcohol-related harm include interventions to reduce ease of access, and ensure responsible sale and supply of alcohol, as well as models of enforcement and monitoring, which improve and measure the effectiveness of these interventions.

In addition to the recommendation to review the Liquor Control Reform Act, RACS is pleased to see recommendations to improve data collection of family violence and educating health professionals to screen for family violence.

RACS made a [submission](#) to the Royal Commission and included recommendations to:

- conduct public education campaigns,
- encourage programs that identify and support family violence victims through health professionals,
- invest in research to expand the evidence base and
- improve data collection by flagging deaths in the National Coronial Information System.

**Media inquiries: Bridget Hooper, Policy & Communications Officer  
+61 498 218 008**

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# MEDIA RELEASE



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RACS is a member of the [Alcohol Policy Coalition](#) in Victoria - a collaboration of health and allied agencies who share a concern about the level of alcohol misuse and the associated health and social consequences for the community.

**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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