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ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS  
**MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **Surgeons welcome latest perioperative mortality report**

**Wednesday 27 March, 2013**

New Zealand surgeons have welcomed the release of the second Report of the Perioperative Mortality Review Committee (POMRC), saying it will stimulate further discussion about perioperative deaths and provide another opportunity to review and improve current surgical practice.

The Chair of the New Zealand National Board of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, Mr Scott Stevenson, said the College supports activities aimed at the reduction of perioperative harm and death.

“The College supports POMRC’s proposal to move towards peer review of selected cases,” Mr Stevenson said. “Experience in the Australian states suggests this process proves beneficial in identifying possibilities for improved practice.”

The report examines data collected from across the country and identifies areas of anaesthetic and surgical practice that merit further investigation.

Mr Stevenson said the College supports POMRC’s focus on reducing the risk of venous thromboembolism, the WHO Surgical Safety Checklist and perioperative counselling about the risks of surgery.

“The College continues to work with other stakeholders to improve the quality and safety of surgery in New Zealand,” he said.

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