



ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

MEDIA RELEASE

Surgeons welcome commitment to training in the private sector

Monday 15 March, 2010

The Royal Australasian College of Surgeons has welcomed the federal government's announcement today that it will train a substantially greater number of doctors over the next ten years.

College President, Professor Ian Gough, said the community needs more surgeons and the College is ready to train more, wherever suitable training environments are available.

He said the increased funding and additional training places announced by the Prime Minister would help address the demand posed by the so-called tsunami of medical graduates emerging from Australian universities over the next few years.

"The College particularly welcomes the federal government's indication that more training will occur in private, community and rural settings.

"We have been urging federal and state governments to support training in the private sector. With more than 60 per cent of surgery now occurring in the private sector, we must ensure that this valuable opportunity to train young surgeons is not wasted. Today's announcement suggests that the federal government has been listening," Professor Gough said.

**Media inquiries: Michael Barrett, Manager Media & Public Relations –
0429 028 933 or (03) 9249 1263**