



ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

MEDIA RELEASE

ENT clinical visit to Tuvalu

Friday 2 September, 2011

An Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) team will visit Tuvalu for a week in September as part of the Pacific Islands Program. The Program, co-ordinated by the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons and funded by AusAID, provides a range of volunteer services in the region.

As ENT services are not currently available in Tuvalu, this visit can make a great difference to people's lives. This is particularly true for those under 19 with conditions such as deafness that, if left untreated, can affect their learning development.

The team, Ms Elizabeth Rose (surgeon), Dr Michael Clifford (anaesthetist), Ms Helen Postma (nurse), will be working at the Princess Margaret Hospital from 6 to 13 September 2011.

They will work with locals to train and help them diagnose and treat patients, and develop their capacity to identify signs for ENT conditions and common problems.

This will be the eleventh ENT visit to Tuvalu through the Pacific Islands Program (PIP), and the fifth visit to Tuvalu by surgeon, Ms Elizabeth Rose.

Some future support planned as part of the Pacific Islands Program are an ophthalmology and optometry visit, also in September, and a diabetes visit in early 2012.

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