

ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS



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Dear colleague

Prevention of Venous Thromboembolism: Best Practice Guidelines for Australia and New Zealand, 4th edition

Please find enclosed a copy of the *Prevention of Venous Thromboembolism: Best Practice Guidelines for Australia and New Zealand* with its accompanying *Surgery Prophylaxis Guide* poster.

The 4th edition guidelines and poster have been produced by the Australia and New Zealand Working Party on the Management and Prevention of Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) to assist in the identification and management of patients at risk of developing venous thromboembolism. The guidelines are based on the International Union of Angiology (IUA) and the American College of Chest Physicians (ACCP) consensus statements.

The Australian and New Zealand Working Party on the Prevention of VTE consists of a group of experts, including surgeons, dedicated to promoting best practice in the prevention, treatment and management of VTE.

The guidelines are being used by a number of Departments of Health and research groups as a reference for their policies, directives and trials on VTE prevention.

The College acknowledges that the guidelines may be less applicable in some surgical specialties and subspecialties. The College encourages all Fellows to have an appropriate plan for the prevention and treatment of VTE. The 4th edition guide provides a timely opportunity to review practice protocols and for clinicians to keep up to date with best practice.

Best practice for prevention of venous thromboembolism continues to evolve. As such, the College will be seeking input and comment on the guidelines from the Specialty Societies and Regional Committees.

If you have any questions regarding the guidelines, please contact Dr John Quinn, Executive Director of Surgical Affairs at email john.quinn@surgeons.org.

Yours sincerely

Dr Andrew Sutherland
President