



COAG Health Council

Dr Joanna Flynn AM

Chair

Medical Board of Australia

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Dear Dr Flynn

Approval of the Medical Board of Australia's revised list of medical specialties, fields of specialty practice and related specialist titles

Thank you for your letter of 15 September 2017, on behalf of the Medical Board of Australia (the Board), recommending approval of the proposed revised list of medical specialties, fields of specialty practice and related specialist titles (the list of recognised medical specialties).

I am pleased to advise that pursuant to section 13 of the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory, the Ministerial Council decided on 27 March 2018 to approve the revised list of recognised medical specialties as recommended by the Board.

In approving the revised list, Ministers noted:

- (a) advice from the Board that the changes do not add any new specialties or titles to the list but will align the field of specialties and specialist titles with current training arrangements for paediatric emergency physicians to provide a more equitable treatment of trainees undertaking the Joint Training Program in paediatric emergency medicine, and
- (b) the Board's assessment that there is no demonstrable benefit to the community in restricting the use of the specialist title of 'Specialist paediatric emergency physician' to Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) fellows when Australasian College for Emergency Medicine (ACEM) fellows have completed the requirements of paediatric emergency medicine specialty training.

Finally, Ministers agreed with the Board's proposal that the approved revised list take effect approximately one month after approval and the Board will publish the revised list as soon as practicable after our approval is communicated.

Thank you for recommending that this minor technical change to the revised list be approved by Ministers.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Play', is positioned below the closing text.

Chair, Ministerial Council

13 April 2018

cc: Mr Martin Fletcher, CEO, AHPRA: martin.fletcher@ahpra.gov.au