

**Australian Medical Association Limited**  
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## **MEDIA ALERT**

### **2016 AMA NATIONAL CONFERENCE** **National Convention Centre Canberra, 27-29 May 2016**

*National Conference Twitter hashtag: #amanc16*

The 2016 AMA National Conference is taking place at the National Convention Centre, Canberra, from 27-29 May.

Speakers at the Conference include the Minister for Health, the Hon Sussan Ley MP; Shadow Minister for Health, the Hon Catherine King MP; and the Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator Richard Di Natale.

The host of ABC TV's Q&A programme, Tony Jones, will facilitate a policy session on Assisted Dying, while a panel of Press Gallery heavyweights will discuss the upcoming Federal Election and the implications for health policy.

The elections for AMA President and Vice President will be held on Sunday.

Highlights of the Conference include:

#### **Friday 27 May 2016**

- 10.20am President's Welcome and President's Statement  
AMA President Prof Brian Owler
- 10.50am Shadow Health Minister, the Hon Catherine King MP
- 11.15am Australian Greens Leader, Senator Richard Di Natale
- 11.45am Medical Journal of Australia (MJA) MDA National Prize for Excellence in Medical Research  
  
AMA Indigenous People's Medical Scholarship
- 1.45pm **POLICY SESSION: *Assisted Dying: Exploring Members' Perspectives***  
 Chair: Dr Michael Gannon, AMA WA President  
 Facilitator: Tony Jones, host, ABC TV's Q&A  
 Panel: Em/Prof Bob Douglas AO, Foundation Director of the National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health at The Australian National University and co-founder of Australia21  
 Prof Malcolm Parker, Professor of Medical Ethics at the University of Queensland  
 Dr Karen Hitchcock, staff physician at the Alfred Hospital and author of *Dear Life: On caring for the elderly*

A/Prof Mark Yates, consultant physician in geriatric medicine at  
Ballarat Health Services  
Ms Georgie Haysom, head of Advocacy, Avant Mutual Group  
Ltd

4.25pm Presentation of inductees to the AMA Roll of Fellows

5.20pm **President's Welcome Reception**

Book launch: *Lord Kitchener's One Hundred – World War I Surgeons Biographies and Diaries* by LO Stunden

AMA National Tobacco Scoreboard Achievement Award

AMA Dirty Ashtray Award

AMA Media Awards

AMA Woman in Medicine Award

AMA Excellence in Healthcare Award

7.30pm **Leadership Development Dinner** –The Boathouse by the Lake  
Guest Speaker: Dr Nick Coatsworth, Director of Infectious Diseases, The  
Canberra Hospital, and former President, Medecins Sans Frontieres in Australia

AMA Doctor in Training of the Year Award

### **Saturday 28 May 2016**

9.00am **POLICY SESSION: *Medical Self-Regulation – Diagnosis, Prognosis and Treatment***

Chair A/Prof Susan Neuhaus, AMA Federal Councillor and Surgical  
Oncologist

Panel: Dr Joanna Flynn, chair, Medical Board of Australia  
A/Prof Matthew Thomas, Human Factors & Safety University  
Research Centre, Central Queensland University

10.00am Australian Medical Students' Association (AMSA) Presentation  
AMSA President Ms Elise Buisson

10.45am **POLICY SESSION: *Health Policy in an Election Year***

Chair: AMA Vice President, Dr Stephen Parnis

Facilitator: Paul Bongiorno, Contributing Editor, *Network Ten*

Panel: Sue Dunlevy, National Health Correspondent, *News Corp*  
Laura Tingle, Political Editor, the *Australian Financial Review*  
Malcolm Farr, National Political Editor, *news.com.au*  
Andrew Probyn, Federal Political Editor, *The West Australian*

- 1.15pm **POLICY SESSION: *The Role of Private Health Insurance in the Australian Health Care System***  
 Chair: Prof Brian Owler  
 Panel: Dr Linda Swan, Chief Medical Officer, Medibank Private  
 Prof John Horvath AO, Strategic Medical Adviser, Ramsay Health Care
- 2.15pm **POLICY SESSION: *The Medical Profession's Role in Closing the Gap***  
 Chair: Prof Brian Owler  
 Facilitator: Brooke Boney, Political Reporter, *SBS TV*
- 3.30pm **POLICY SESSION: *Bullying and Harassment – Changing Culture***  
 Chair: Dr Danika Thiemt, Chair, AMA Council of Doctors in Training  
 Panel: Ms Chris Ronalds AM SC, Sydney barrister specialising in discrimination law, employment law, and administrative law  
 Mr Philip Truskett AM, President, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons  
 Dr Ruth Mitchell, Chair, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Trainees' Association
- 7.30pm **Gala Dinner – Members' Dining Room, Old Parliament House**  
**Guest Speaker: Health Minister, the Hon Sussan Ley MP**  
 Presentation of President's Award (in recognition of outstanding contributions to the AMA and the broader medical profession through years of dedicated service)

### **Sunday 29 May 2016**

- 11.00am **ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS**  
 President  
 Vice President

#### **New AMA President's Acceptance Speech**

\*\*Please note: the election is closed to media but media are invited to attend the President's speech\*\*

- 11.45am **Installation of President and Vice President**

- 12.00pm **Conference concludes**

\*\*All Policy Sessions will be live streamed on the AMA website at <https://ama.com.au/>

\*\*Media are welcome to attend the Conference and Gala Dinner. There will be a media work room and a room for media conferences and interviews. Please advise Kirsty Waterford at [kwaterford@ama.com.au](mailto:kwaterford@ama.com.au) if you will be attending the Conference or Gala Dinner.

\*\*The Twitter hashtag for the Conference is **#amanc16**

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13 May 2016

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