

Australian Medical Association Limited
ABN 37 008 426 793

42 Macquarie Street, Barton ACT 2600: PO Box 6090, Kingston ACT 2604
 Telephone: (02) 6270 5400 Facsimile (02) 6270 5499
 Website : <http://www.ama.com.au/>



**COMMONWEALTH WINNING THE FIGHT AGAINST
 TOBACCO CONTROL**

**AMA/ACOSH NATIONAL TOBACCO SCOREBOARD AWARD
 AMA NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2016 (Twitter: #amanc16)**

The Commonwealth Government has ranked first among Australian governments for making the most progress on combating smoking over the past 12 months.

Ahead of World No Tobacco Day on 31 May, AMA President Professor Brian Owler today announced the results of the *AMA/ACOSH National Tobacco Scoreboard* in a ceremony at the AMA National Conference in Canberra.

The scoreboard allocates points to each State and Territory in various categories, including legislation, to track how effective governments have been at combating smoking in the previous 12 months.

“The Government should be commended for its continuing commitment to tobacco control and its plain packaging legislation, and world-leading fiscal policies,” Professor Owler said.

“The Government is providing an exemplar role to other countries with its strong and continuing bi-partisan commitment to tobacco control with support for plain packaging legislation, including legal defence against tobacco industry opposition in international disputes.

“The United Kingdom, France and Ireland have all agreed to introduce plain packaging laws.

“However, there is always room to improve. The Government only marginally beat other States for the top honour, and only received an overall B grade for their efforts.

“The Commonwealth Government has not run a national media campaign to combat smoking since 2012 and support for Indigenous programs needs to improve.”

Professor Owler said that he hoped the results of the *National Tobacco Control Scoreboard* would encourage governments to do more to combat tobacco use.

27 May 2016

CONTACT: John Flannery 02 6270 5477 / 0419 494 761
 Kirsty Waterford 02 6270 5464 / 0427 209 753

Follow the AMA Media on Twitter: http://twitter.com/ama_media
 Follow the AMA President on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/amapresident>
 Follow *Australian Medicine* on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/amaausmed>
 Like the AMA on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/AustralianMedicalAssociation>