



# RACGP

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners

Healthy Profession.  
Healthy Australia.

4 April 2018

Hayley Burgess  
Coroners Registrar  
Coroners Court of Victoria  
65 Kavanagh Street  
Southbank VIC 3006

Dear Ms Burgess,

**Re: Court ref: COR 2017 002066– Emma K McGrath**

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) acknowledges receipt of your letter dated 18 January 2018 regarding the death of Emma K McGrath (Court ref: COR 2017 002066).

Pursuant to Section 72(2) of the Coroners Act 2008, the RACGP responds to the recommendation as follows:

### **Recommendation**

***That the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners inform its members of the need to ensure that patients aged between 15 and 19 years (including those who turned 19 years in 2017) have received the meningococcal ACWY vaccine (if clinically appropriate) or are otherwise advised of the availability of the vaccine and the costs and benefits of immunization against meningococcal disease.***

*The RACGP Guidelines for preventative activities in general practice 9<sup>th</sup> edition ([The Red Book](#)) Section 3 provides the following advice:*

*Preventative activities in children and young people (age 14-19) advises General Practitioners (GPs) to promote immunisation as per the [Australian Immunisation Handbook](#).*

The Coroner's recommendation will also be brought to the attention of the RACGP Communications Department for consideration for inclusion in future RACGP publications, including the appropriate jurisdictional immunisation protocols.

Should you or the Coroner wish to discuss this further, please contact RACGP Victoria on (03) 8699 0303.

Yours sincerely

Dr Cameron Loy  
Chair, RACGP Victoria