

**Professor Michael Permezel**

President



**The Royal Australian  
and New Zealand  
College of  
Obstetricians and  
Gynaecologists**

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***Excellence in Women's Health***

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12 December 2013

Ms Audrey Jamieson  
Coroner  
Coroners Court of Victoria  
Level 11  
222 Exhibition Street  
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Dear Ms Jamieson

**Re: Recommendation to the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of  
Obstetricians and Gynaecologists arising from the coronial inquest into the death of  
Mary Korzeniewski (Reference: COR 2004 4579).**

Thank you for forwarding to the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG) the recommendation with respect to your findings in the above Coronial inquest. The College welcomes the opportunity to respond to this recommendation and I wish to place on record our support for any review processes that contribute to the improvement of patient safety and the prevention of future adverse outcomes such as those that were the substance of the inquest into the death of Mary Korzeniewski.

Recommendation:

*'... I recommend that The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists explore the utility of sharing this knowledge [incidents of amniotic fluid embolism, including both where death and survival has occurred] through the development, administration and maintenance of an Amniotic Fluid Embolism register.'*

RANZCOG Response:

In considering this recommendation, I advise that as an educational and standards body, the College offers quality assurance programs such as C-QUIP (Colposcopy Quality Improvement Program), NTUEMP (Nuchal Translucency Ultrasound Education and Monitoring Program) and FSEP (Fetal Surveillance Education Program).

The College is, however, limited in its ability to collect national data and establish registers outside of funded programs. We advise that data on Amniotic Fluid Embolism (AFE) has been collected by the Australian Maternity Outcome Surveillance System (AMOSS) for Australasian participating hospitals for the triennium 2010-2012. As far as the College is aware, there is not funding to continue this data collection. Information can be found at: [www.amoss.com.au/page.php?id=34](http://www.amoss.com.au/page.php?id=34).

On behalf of RANZCOG I wish to acknowledge the content of your report and reiterate the College's commitment to excellence in the delivery of health care to all women, and also our ongoing commitment to quality assurance and maintenance of the highest standards of training, research and ongoing education of our membership.

Yours sincerely

Michael Permezel

**President**