

11 February 2019

Emma Lindsey  
Coroner's Registrar  
Coroners Court of Victoria  
65 Kavanagh Street  
Southbank VIC 3006

Dear Ms Lindsey,

**Re: Court ref: COR 2014 004591 – Baby B**

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) acknowledges receipt of your letter dated 15 November 2018 regarding the death of Baby B (Court ref: COR 2014 004591).

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 develop a RACGP website link to the 'Substance Use during Pregnancy' information.***

In December 2018 the RACGP responded to an earlier iteration of this recommendation advising that an item had been published in the RACGP In Practice newsletter, please refer to Attachment 1. This item remains available on the RACGP website.

The Coroner's recommendation has also been brought to the attention of the RACGP Communications Department for consideration for inclusion in future RACGP publications.

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

Attachment 1 – RACGP *InPractice* item

## **Attachment 1 – RACGP *InPractice* newsletter article**

### Substance use during pregnancy

The Coroners Court of Victoria recently made a recommendation to the RACGP following the death of a newborn. The Coroner has asked the RACGP to remind its members to refer to information on substance use during pregnancy, available at the [health.vic website](http://health.vic.gov.au).

The information includes advice for the antenatal, perinatal and postpartum management of infants and mothers with a chemical dependency.

GPs can also refer to the [Guidelines for preventive activities in general practice](#) 9th edition (the Red book) for further advice on preventive activities and preconception care.

Published in the RACGP's national newsletter, *InPractice*, on 9 November 2018