

30 November 2021

Sheean Werkmeister
Coroner's Registrar
Coroners Support Services
Coroners Court of Victoria
65 Kavanagh Street
Southbank VIC 3006

cpuresponses@coronerscourt.vic.gov.au

Dear Coroner's Registrar Werkmeister,

Re: Court ref: COR 2019 003297 – Investigation onto the death of Phillip Sealey

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) thanks the Coroners Court of Victoria for the letter dated 31 August 2021 regarding the investigation into the death of Phillip Sealey.

Requested responses to the following recommendation:

1. *I recommend that the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners liaise with the Australian Diabetes Society with a view to identifying further opportunities to educate and raise awareness amongst primary care providers about:*
 - a. *hyperglycaemia emergencies occurring as the first presentation of undiagnosed diabetes.*
 - b. *identifying and recognising signs and symptoms of an emerging metabolic crises, particularly in patients not known to have diabetes.*
 - c. *undertaking urgent point-of-care assessment using preferred methods of capillary (finger prick) blood glucose level and capillary blood ketones tests where there are symptoms suggestive of diabetes and/or an emerging metabolic crisis.*
 - d. *adopting best practice standards of care and ensuring they have access to capillary blood glucose and ketone monitoring meters and strips to undertake urgent point-of-care assessment; and*
 - e. *providing education to patients who are under investigation for or suspected to have diabetes (and their families or carers), about the risk factors, signs and symptoms of glycaemic emergencies and the need to obtain urgent medical assessment and management if such symptoms develop.*

RACGP Response pursuant to section 72(2) of the Act:

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) has agreed to work together with the Australian Diabetes Society (ADS) on an update of the [2018 RACGP/ADS joint position statement - Emergency Management of Hyperglycaemia in Primary Care](#) to ensure that information in the position statement remains in line with current changes in medical knowledge and evidence. We will work with the ADS to review the resource to determine if an update is required, which will be communicated to RACGP members as required.

We hope that this information is useful. If you have any further questions about the above, please contact RACGP Victoria State Manager Kon Kakris via kon.kakris@racgp.org.au.

Yours sincerely



Dr Anita Muñoz
Chair, Victoria Faculty