



The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists®

The Faculty of Clinical Radiology

Ms Olivia Collings
Coroner's Registrar
Coroners Court of Victoria
65 Kavanagh Street
Southbank VIC 3006

Via email: cpuresponses@coronerscourt.vic.gov.au

10 November 2023

Dear Ms Collings

Investigation into the death of Michele Valentino – COR 2019 007024

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (RANZCR) offers sincere condolences to the family and friends of Mr Michele Valentino.

As noted in the report of the coroner dated 1 August 2023, timely communication of the findings from imaging examinations is an important element of quality healthcare. This is recognised in Section 5.5.2 of the RANZCR Standards of Practice for Clinical Radiology which requires practices to establish protocols for direct communication of urgent or unexpected findings by the radiologist to the referrer or the team responsible for clinical follow-up.

The RANZCR Safety, Quality and Standards Committee has considered the recommendation of the Coroner to remind all radiologists of the importance of communicating urgent and significant unexpected radiological findings directly to the referrer, in keeping with the RANZCR Standards of Practice for Clinical Radiology. This will be published in the College's publication, *Inside News*, which is distributed to all members of the College, including trainees. The next publication will be in March 2024.

Following this recommendation should make incidents like this less likely. Compliance with the RANZCR Standards of Practice is voluntary and RANZCR continues to lobby for the Standards to be adopted more widely.

I can be contacted at standards@ranzcr.edu.au if you have any questions.

Yours faithfully,

Dr Rajiv Rattan
Dean, Faculty of Clinical Radiology
Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists

