



19 03 2026

Rachel Nicol  
Coroners Registrar  
Coroners Support Services  
65 Kavanagh Street  
Southbank VIC 3006

Dear Ms Nicol,

**Re: Coronial Investigation into the death of Oscar Hector Ortiz (COR 2019 001585)**

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) thanks the Coroners Court of Victoria for the letter dated 23 February regarding the Investigation into the death of Oscar Hector Ortiz.

Requested response to the following recommendation:

*That both Royal Australasian College of Physicians and the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners consider capturing the contemporary best practice guidance on the prescription of aspirin and oral anticoagulants (and the risks thereof) to general practitioners and physicians/cardiologists, with a view to promulgating that best practice to the relevant medical professions.*

**RACGP response:**

The Coroner's recommendation is under consideration.

The RACGP will use our *InPractice* publication to draw members attention to this coroner's case and risks of bleeding when aspirin and oral anticoagulants are combined.

As per clinical guidelines, aspirin is generally not recommended for primary prevention. Aspirin is usually ceased when oral anticoagulation is commenced unless there are clear indications for both to continue.

Clinical guidelines are widely accessible and include the RACGP's [Guidelines for preventive activities in general practice \(Red Book\)](#) and the Heart Foundation's [Australian clinical guideline for diagnosing and managing acute coronary syndromes 2025](#).

Furthermore, practitioners have access to freely available tools to assist decision making in the use of aspirin, including [CHAD2Vasc](#) and [HASBLED](#).

We hope that this information is useful. If you have any further questions about the above, please contact RACGP State Manager Ally Francis via [vic.faculty@racgp.org.au](mailto:vic.faculty@racgp.org.au)



**RACGP**  
Royal Australian College  
of General Practitioners

Healthy Profession.  
Healthy Australia.

Yours Sincerely,

Anita Muñoz  
RACGP Victoria, Chair