

14 September 2026

Sheean Werkmeister
Coroner's Registrar
Coroners Support Services

Via email: [REDACTED]

Dear Sheean Werkmeister,

Re: COR 2019 001488 - Finding into the death of [REDACTED]

With reference to the above, the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG) was requested to provide its response to the coroner's recommendations.

Following review from RANZCOG's Research Policy and Guidelines Committee (RPGC) and the Dean of Research and Policy, please see below, RANZCOG's response to the Coroner's Recommendation.

- a) Delivery with Neville Barnes forceps in the occipito posterior position is an accepted practice and may be the safest option in certain circumstances. Its use is appropriate where clinically indicated, but as with all assisted (instrumental) births, it carries potential risks.

Alternative management options include manual rotation, forceps rotation, ventouse-assisted rotation, delivery in the occipito posterior position, or caesarean section. However, the suitability of these approaches is highly individually variable, and the final approach should be determined on a case-by-case basis.

- b) RANZCOG guidance on assisted vaginal birth is currently under review and will incorporate wording consistent with the text above.

Should you have any questions, please contact us at [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely



Ms Vase Jovanoska
Chief Executive Officer