



# The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists

A.C.N. 000 644 404

94 – 98 Chalmers Street,  
SURRY HILLS NSW 2010 AUSTRALIA  
Telephone 61 2 9690 1001 Facsimile 61 2 9690 1321  
E-mail: [ranzco@ranzco.edu](mailto:ranzco@ranzco.edu)  
<http://www.ranzco.edu>

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Professor Chris Baggoley  
Chief Executive  
GPO Box 5480  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

*Noted.  
Forward to Nicola Dunlop  
6/2/08 14/2*

Australian Commission

14 FEB 2008

on Safety and Quality  
in Health Care

Dear Professor Baggoley

TRIM No.

012632

## National Patient Charter of Rights

SCANNED

Thank you for your letter of 22 January 2008 inviting the College for written submissions on the draft National Patient Charter of Rights.

In relation to the specific terms of reference outlined in the consultation paper, the College welcomes the move to establish a national approach to the development of patient charter rights. All Australians have expectations of gaining equitable health care and it is important for some general principles to be established within the national arena which provide the framework for such health care provision.

The Charter and Principles are well conceptualised in that they encapsulate the range of concerns of patients in seeking health care provision. They are also written in plain English which ensures their accessibility for use by patients and providers.

The main use for the charter at the College would be in terms of standard setting within the education and training program. Recently the College developed a Social and Professional Responsibilities curriculum standard which articulates the competencies which extend beyond medical expertise which trainees are required to develop as part of the training program. One of the key sources we drew on in developing the standard was the National Patient Safety Education Framework which as you have noted in this draft document aligns well with the draft National Patient Charter of Rights. As part of this submission we have undertaken a curriculum mapping exercise of the Social and Professional Responsibilities curriculum standard and the Charter to ensure that each of the eight rights and their associated principles are already incorporated in Social and Professional Responsibilities curriculum. Once the National Patient Charter of Rights is endorsed we undertake to include the Charter as a reference in our standard to ensure that trainees can incorporate the content of the document in its entirety into their professional practice.

Yours sincerely

Iain Dunlop  
President