



**The Royal Australian and New Zealand
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A/Professor Margaret Banks
Policy Team Manager
Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care
GPO Box 5480
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Prof Banks

**AN ALTERNATIVE MODEL FOR SAFETY AND QUALITY
ACCREDITATION OF HEALTH CARE**

Attached is the College's submission on the proposed new Safety and Accreditation model.

Yours sincerely

R.L. GUEST
Chief Executive Officer

Attachment: Submission

**RANZCO'S SUBMISSION ON
AN ALTERNATIVE MODEL FOR SAFETY AND QUALITY
ACCREDITATION OF HEALTH CARE**

The Royal Australia and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists has reviewed the proposed alternative model and, while some of the proposals are a good idea, the College believes the model is too broad in its approach and may be fundamentally flawed in its basis.

In a genuine attempt to address perceived but ill-defined needs, the theoretical model proposes what is essentially a regulatory system that will have far reaching practical consequences that cannot be envisaged.

The health system is already burdened by multiple layers of bureaucracy, regulations, guidelines, standards, etc, to the extent that the resources required to service these requirements significantly detract from patient care. The introduction of the model proposed with the potential to significantly add to the burden is not warranted on the basis of the evidence provided.

The College is supportive of bringing non-regulated health care providers into the existing accreditation system and is supportive of introducing a national system that analyses accreditation data to indicate where improvements are needed.

The College strongly supports the improvement of safety and quality in health care as an evolutionary and interactive process but does not support the introduction of a new model where the patient benefit to be gained is far outweighed by the total resource costs required for a new model.



R L GUEST
Chief Executive Officer