

21 November 2017

Avril Diamente
Coroners Registrar
Coroners Court of Victoria
65 Kavanagh Street
Southbank VIC 3006

Dear Ms Diamente,

Re: Court ref: COR 2015 002127 – death of [REDACTED]

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) acknowledges receipt of your letter dated 13 July 2017 regarding the death of [REDACTED] (Court ref: COR 2015 002127).

Pursuant to Section 72(2) of the Coroners Act 2008, the RACGP responds to the recommendation as follows:

Recommendation

That the Royal Australian College of general Practitioners provide education to its members as to the need for caution in prescribing pregabalin due to its risk of misuse and its potential for harm.

The RACGP is currently developing *Prescribing drugs of dependence in general practice Part C1: Opioid Prescribing* and *Part C2: The role of opioids in pain management*. Due for release later this year, C2 provides guidance on the role of anticonvulsants such as pregabalin in pain management including the risk of its abuse and potential misuse in susceptible populations such as those with a previous history of substance use disorder.

Should you or the Coroner wish to discuss this further, please contact RACGP Victoria on (03) 8699 0303.

Yours sincerely



Dr Cameron Loy
Chair, RACGP Victoria