



05 September 2023

Olivia Collings
Coroner's Registrar
Coroners Support Services

cpuresponses@coronerscourt.vic.gov.au

Dear Coroner's Registrar Collings

Re: Court ref: COR 2017 003601 – Finding into death without inquest of Jodie Overstead.

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) thanks the Coroners Court of Victoria for the letter dated 05 June regarding the Investigation into the death of Jodie Overstead.

Requested response to the following recommendation:

1. *With the aim of promoting public health and safety and preventing like deaths, I recommend that the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners consider developing further training and education materials to highlight the harms and hazardous effects of tramadol, as well as the adverse interactions of the concomitant use of tramadol and other contraindicated medications.*

RACGP Response pursuant to section 72(2) of the Act:

1. The RACGP's 'Prescribing drugs of dependence in general practice, Part C1 discusses polydrug use including paragraphs about individual drugs. Information pertaining to tramadol information is located in Section 3.2.11 <https://www.racgp.org.au/getattachment/f0eb9c77-58fc-4e7f-bec6-5b570bc68534/Clinical-pharmacology.aspx>
2. The [RACGP's First Do No Harm guide](#) is developing guidance to help GPs avoid opioid use in chronic non-cancer pain with an accompanying patient guide.
3. Now close to 100% of GPs use prescribing software that has pop-up alerts for meaningful drug-drug interactions as well as access to the approved Product Information sheet that details significant precautions and drug-drug interactions.

We hope that this information is useful. If you have any further questions about the above, please contact RACGP Victoria State Manager Kon Kakris via [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

Dr Anita Muñoz
Chair, Victoria Faculty