



ANZCA
FPM

Media release

Anaesthetists support Urgent Medical Treatment Bill

4 December 2018

The Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA) supports the call by other specialist medical colleges to ensure that the health of all Australia's detainees on Nauru Island is not endangered.

ANZCA President Dr Rod Mitchell said today the college supports the principle that all people under the jurisdiction of the Australian Government who require acute surgical, medical or psychological care should have timely access to facilities that can provide that care.

“ANZCA also supports the principle that clinical decisions relating to the need to transfer patients to a facility that can provide the required care should be made solely by suitably qualified medical practitioners,” Dr Mitchell said. “These are clinical decisions, not political ones.”

ANZCA would therefore support any legislation that promotes those principles.

ANZCA, which includes the Faculty of Pain Medicine, is the specialist medical college whose mission is to “serve the community by fostering safety and high quality patient care in anaesthesia, perioperative medicine and pain medicine”.