

5 May 2017

## CHOOSING WISELY GOOD FOR US ALL

The Australian College of Nursing is throwing its weight behind the Choosing Wisely campaign's aim of improving health outcomes by reducing unnecessary test, treatments and procedures for patients in hospital.

"Nurses make up 50 per cent of the health workforce and have the most contact with patients at the point of care of any professional in the health system," Australian College of Nursing CEO, Adjunct Professor Kylie Ward explained.

"This means nurses see the distress and even pain patients experience due to interventions which evidence suggests provide no benefit, or in some cases, lead to harm."

The Australian College of Nursing took part in yesterday's inaugural Choosing Wisely Australia National Meeting.

"We commend Choosing Wisely Australia for fostering a nation-wide conversation about what care is needed," Adjunct Professor Ward said. "We encourage our members to speak with those in their care and ensure they are fully informed about all aspects of their treatment.

"With health care costs rising and any risk of harm being unacceptable, we cannot simply accept that something is right because we have always done it that way.

"Innovation is being pursued across the health system and Choosing Wisely is one aspect of that.

"Services implementing the Choosing Wisely Australia initiative yesterday shared stories of significant changes in practice and reductions in tests and treatments. We expect more will be reported in coming years as the Choosing Wisely Australia recommendations are more broadly implemented."

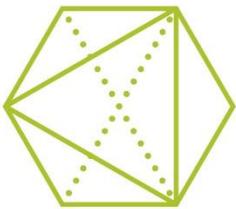
-ends-

**For interviews, please contact Narelle Barrie, Executive Assistant to CEO on 02 6283 3459, 0450 908 920 or email [narelle.barrie@acn.edu.au](mailto:narelle.barrie@acn.edu.au)**

**For more information, please contact Carolyn Stapleton, Manager – Policy and Advocacy on 0448 017 194 or email [carolyn.stapleton@acn.edu.au](mailto:carolyn.stapleton@acn.edu.au)**



Adjunct Professor Kylie Ward, CEO of ACN.



# Australian College of Nursing

Advancing nurse leadership

## Notes to Editors:

The Australian College of Nursing (ACN) is the national professional organisation for all nurse leaders and its aim is to ensure that the Australian community receives quality nursing care now and in the future. ACN is a membership organisation with members in all states and territories, health care settings and nursing specialties. ACN is also the Australian member of the International Council of Nurses headquartered in Geneva.

ACN, an organisation not afraid to intelligently challenge industry issues affecting the nursing profession or Australia's health care, is a well-connected and educated national body that drives change with people of influence

---

### Canberra

PO Box 219, Deakin West ACT 2600  
freecall 1800 061 660 (charges apply to mobile phones)  
t 02 6283 3400 | f 02 6282 3565

[www.acn.edu.au](http://www.acn.edu.au)

Australian College of Nursing Ltd  
ABN 48 154 924 642

to enhance the delivery of health services to the Australian community. ACN advances the skills and expertise of nurses to provide leadership in their contribution to the policy, practice and delivery of health care.

A membership organisation with members in all states and territories, health care settings and nursing specialities, ACN's membership includes many nurses in roles of influence, including senior nurses, organisational leaders, academics and researchers.

### What is the role of ACN to media?

- ACN provides trusted, well supported information about Australia's health care system, the delivery of health care, nursing leadership and the nursing profession.
- ACN has a number of media-savvy spokespeople within the organisation who can comment on Australia's health care system, the delivery of health care, nursing leadership and the nursing profession.
- ACN offers media with an alternative voice to that of an industrial relations perspective.
- ACN is in-the-know and can comment on health care matters of interest.
- ACN can respond to media requests in a timely manner and with subject/clinical expert's available on-hand for further discussion.
- ACN regularly responds to government updates pertaining to Australia's health care system.

### What role does ACN play?

ACN is here to act and deliver results as agents of change. They are working towards a brighter future through advancing nurse leadership to enhance the delivery of health care to all. The organisation provides nurse leaders with access to relevant information, support and education that will enhance Australia's reputation on the world stage.

### Social media channels:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/acnursing>

Twitter: [https://twitter.com/acn\\_tweet](https://twitter.com/acn_tweet)

LinkedIn: <http://www.linkedin.com/company/australian-college-of-nursing>

Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/acn\\_nursing](https://www.instagram.com/acn_nursing)