



# RANZCO Co-Management Policy Statement

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**Approved by:** Board

**Approval date:** 18 August 2018

**Next review:** August 2021

**RANZCO is opposed to any payment, which could in any way be perceived or is an inducement to refer, by an ophthalmologist to any party who refers a patient to them.**

Where co-management is in the best interest of a patient, the fundamental principle is that a patient should always be aware of and responsible for all fees associated with the delivery of the services that they receive from the attending practitioner, including pre and post-operative care where required.

Where co-management is in the best interest of a patient, the following must apply:

- All responsibility and management decisions remain with the ophthalmologist;
- A co-managing practitioner and an ophthalmologist must communicate with each other at every encounter between the patient and the co-managing practitioner, and wherever possible communication should be done in writing or followed-up with a written summary;
- An ophthalmologist is satisfied that the co-managing practitioner has competence appropriate to the tasks involved. In general, post-operative care should if at all possible, be provided by the ophthalmologist performing the procedure.
- No payments should be made, directly or indirectly, by a RANZCO Member or their practice to any practitioner providing post-operative care.
- The co-managing practitioner MAY separately bill the patient for the services they render. It is not acceptable to offer to any referring practitioner payment or reward for any services or investigations that have been performed by the referring practitioner. Payments for these services are the responsibility of the patient.