



RANZCO position statement – Uluru Statement from the Heart

RANZCO endorses the Uluru Statement from the Heart, (the Uluru statement), the outcome of a constitutional convention held in 2017 at the foot of Uluru that brought together over 250 leaders from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

In endorsing the Uluru Statement from the Heart, which calls for the establishment of a First Nations Voice enshrined in the Constitution and seeks a Makarrata Commission to supervise a process of agreement-making between governments and First Nations and truth-telling about Australia's history RANZCO is affirming its commitment to strive for health equity and equality for all Australians, including Australia's First Nations Peoples.

RANZCO acknowledges that health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples is inextricably linked to self-determination and that there is strong evidence to support improvement in health outcomes when Indigenous peoples take greater control over their health.

Our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) framework launched in November 2019 commits RANZCO to activities that:

- seek to achieve equity in access and health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples;
- continue to build collaborative partnerships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and the health sector;
- build on our existing commitment to increasing the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ophthalmologists in Australia;
- improve and enhance our organisation's cultural awareness;
- support education and training that ensure doctors are aware of the impact of their own culture and cultural values on the delivery of services, historically and at present, and have knowledge of, respect for and sensitivity towards the cultural needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples; and
- close the gap in eye health inequality.