



Media Statement Friday 13th March 2015

Specialist doctors support zero tolerance of bullying, discrimination and sexual harassment

Australia's representative body of women's health specialists, the National Association of Specialist Obstetricians and Gynecologists (NASOG) support a "zero tolerance" approach to any forms of bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment of our O&G trainees, or surgical trainees in other professional colleges.

President of the National Association of Specialist Obstetricians & Gynecologists (NASOG) Dr Mike Aitken said "the message that female trainees in surgical training should stay silent if suffering from sexual harassment should not be supported."

"We appreciate the importance of this issue being brought into the spotlight," Dr Aitken said. "Although we would like to think the field of Obstetrics and Gynaecology is different, as the vast majority of our trainees are female, it is possible our speciality faces similar issues that are underreported."

"We support the Royal College of Surgeons announcement of an independent advisory group to explore concerns surrounding bullying and harassment within hospitals."

About NASOG:

The National Association of Specialist Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (NASOG) is a not for profit professional association representing specialist Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, the leading providers of specialist women's health services. Australia is recognised as one of the safest countries in the world to give birth or to be born. NASOG strongly endorses our collaborative, proactive model of obstetric and midwifery care for all women giving birth in Australia. The safety of this existing model of care is confirmed by research from Australia and around the world.

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