Primary Health Care Research & Information Service (PHC RIS)

To whom it may concern,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this consultation paper which we have read with interest. It is much appreciated.

While this paper is very comprehensive we note that the practice level indicators for general practitioners are being developed separately by the RACGP. We urge that these indicators be integrated into the final document and that they align with practice level indicators for other primary health care practitioners.

We encourage a realistic approach to collecting data for the most suitable indicators for each practitioner. It is to be acknowledged that data collection and audit in small practices requires proportionally significantly more effort than in larger practices. This puts a greater burden on small practices.

We are aware that some of the indicators listed in this document may be harder to measure than others and encourage more practical reflection on whether the effort required to measure a particular indicator is warranted.

We recognise that much data is currently being collected that could be used for practice-level indicators and suggest that this data should be made available rather than duplicate data be collected. Medicare data is one such source.

We look forward to seeing practice-level indicators for all primary health care practitioners that are an excellent measure of safety and quality.