AMA (WA) *in the Media*

At the AMA (WA), we take pride in being a strong voice for doctors, patients, and the healthcare system as a whole. Over the past two months, the AMA (WA) has been in the media, speaking up on relevant issues like a fire in the ICU at Fiona Stanley Hospital in August. Here's a look at some of our most significant media appearances.

HIGHLIGHTS



Age-old ramping issues

With August ramping hitting more than 6,600 hours, the highest monthly figure so far this year, AMA (WA) President Dr Kyle Hoath identified reducing aged care wait times to free up hospital beds as a significant part of the solution. "It's not a good place for them to be, and it's 400 beds we could use otherwise for sick Western Australians who are then causing people to have to wait in ambulances out the front of emergency departments. This is not acceptable."

Call for fire review



Dr Kyle Hoath commented on the fire inside Fiona Stanley Hospital's ICU. "A fire occurring in an ICU is really scary, this could have been far worse. For staff to be able to maintain their clinical care whilst evacuating the ICU is exemplary. I'd be very surprised if the department and the hospital don't jump into quickly reviewing this and making sure there is no risk of this occurring again."



6PR

Presidency challenges

Oliver Peterson interviewed former AMA and AMA (WA) President Michael Gannon about his open letter to candidates for the AMA presidency. He spoke about how challenging the role can be, given the systemic issues that Australia's entire health system is facing – with general practice struggling, public hospitals underfunded, and the viability of private hospitals and health insurers increasingly precarious. "In my article I referred to the things that were really important 12 years ago, and they're still important now; and every element of those still faces significant threats. There are certainly things that have improved over the years, but there are other pressures on the system."

6PR

Private health insurance changes



Dr Kyle Hoath spoke to Simon Beaumont about private health insurance changes for people over the age of 65 and over the age of 70. "If you're over 65 or over 70, there's a rebate that's an incentive for them to keep their private health insurance, which is important because our health sector is very much a delicate balance of the public and private sector. If we lose that balance and we have a number of Australians choosing not to continue their private health insurance because the rebate disappears, then that just means longer waits in the public sector; and particularly in those things like hip replacements, heart problems, cancer, that we don't see more frequently until later in life."



SOCIAL MEDIA

FACEBOOK

A post about two AMA (WA) members, **Professor Desiree Silva** and **Professor Chan Cheah,** who were both finalists for the **2026 Premier's Science Awards** got **45,403** views and **140** interactions.

A post with AMA (WA) President **Dr Kyle Hoath**'s comments about the **State Government's decision to reduce the number of Ward 5A beds at Perth Children's Hospital** got **33,774** views and **160** interactions.

A post welcoming the addition of 60 public beds and three public theatres at **St John of God Midland Public Hospital** got **33,691** views and **160** interactions.



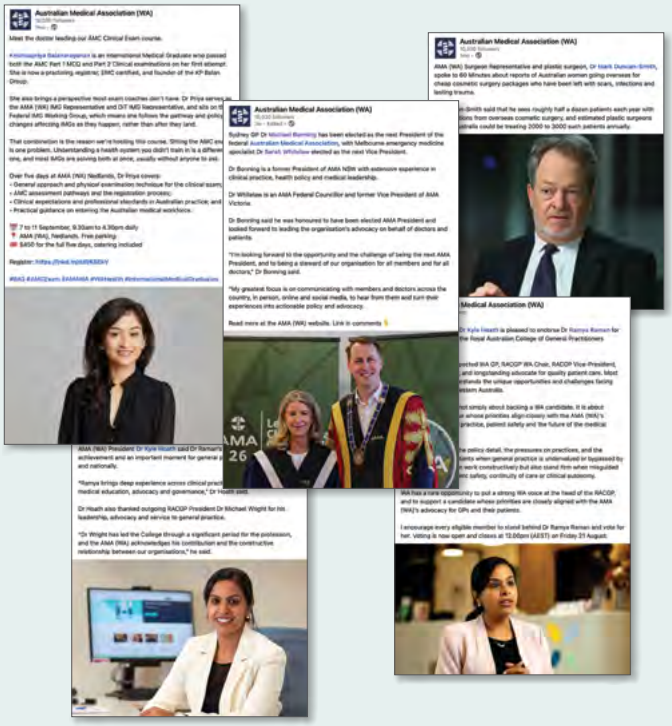
LINKEDIN

A post about our **AMC Clinical Exam** course, led by **Dr Krishnapriya Balanarayanan**, got **12,286** impressions and **524** engagements.

A post about AMA (WA) Surgeon Representative **Dr Mark Duncan-Smith**'s comments to **60 Minutes** about **reports of overseas cosmetic surgery** going wrong got **10,820** impressions and **263** engagements.

A post congratulating the **AMA's new President**, Sydney GP **Dr Michael Bonning**, and **new Vice President**, Melbourne emergency medicine specialist **Dr Sarah Whitelaw**, got **6,106** impressions and **381** engagements.

Two posts about AMA (WA) member and Councillor **Dr Ramya Raman**, who was recently elected as the **next RACGP President**, got a total of **8,499** impressions and **584** engagements. Congrats post: Impressions **5,888**; Engagements **327**. Endorsement post: Impressions **2,611**; Engagements **257**.



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