



ANZCA

FPM

22 April 2026

The Hon Blair Boyer MP
Minister for Health and Wellbeing
Government of South Australia

Sent via email: Ministerforhealth@sa.gov.au

President-elect and CEO

Australian and New Zealand
College of Anaesthetists

Dear Minister Boyer,

On behalf of the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA), we warmly congratulate you on your appointment as South Australia's Minister for Health and Wellbeing.

ANZCA, including the Faculty of Pain Medicine (FPM) is the professional medical college responsible for the robust training, standards, and ongoing professional development of specialist anaesthetists and specialist pain medicine physicians across Australia and New Zealand.

As one of the largest medical colleges in Australia and New Zealand, our over 10,000 fellows, trainees and specialist international medical graduates (SIMGs) play a critical role in ensuring Australia is one of the safest places in the world to have an operation under anaesthesia. We have recently launched a Chapter of Perioperative Medicine whose graduates are already improving and streamlining surgical care for patients.

ANZCA is committed to working constructively with you, your office and the South Australian Department for Health and Wellbeing to support evidence-based policy, strengthen specialist workforce planning, and improve patient access and outcomes. In particular, we would welcome opportunities to engage with you on:

- Anaesthesia and pain medicine workforce supply, distribution, and training pathways across the state, with a focus on regional and rural sustainability.
- The role of perioperative medicine, a multidisciplinary, patient centred approach to higher-risk surgical patient care, in improving surgical outcomes, reducing length of stay and strengthening system efficiency. Evidence suggests that ward based close observation models such as Royal Adelaide Hospital's Advanced Recovery Room Care (ARRC) model provides a good economic value proposition, including reduced length of stay, complications and mortality when compared to equivalent patients who recovered in regular wards. This is a model we would like to see expanded across Australia and New Zealand.

We would value the opportunity to meet with you at your convenience, to discuss how we can support your priorities over the coming term.

Once again, we congratulate you on your appointment and wish you every success in your new role. We look forward to working with you in the interests of South Australian patients and communities.

Yours sincerely

Mr Lance Emerson
Chief Executive Officer

Dr Tanya Selak
ANZCA President-elect