



MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday 18 January 2017

The Medical Technology Industry welcomes new Minister for Health

The Medical Technology Association of Australia (MTAA) today congratulated The Hon. Greg Hunt MP being appointed Minister for Health and Sport.

The MTAA looks forward to working collaboratively with the new Minister for Health and his office to continue the extensive reform agenda set in place by his predecessor.

The MTAA has been, and remains, fully supportive of the Government's efforts to achieve lasting and meaningful fact-based reform for medical device benefits.

The MTAA also congratulates Senator The Hon. Arthur Sinodinos AO elevation as Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science along with Hon Ken Wyatt AM, MP as Minister for Aged Care and Minister for Indigenous Health.

Andrea Kunca, co-lead of the Medical Technology Association of Australia said:

“On behalf of the Medical Technology Association of Australia we congratulate The Hon. Greg Hunt MP being appointed Minister for Health and Sport.

“From our perspective, we look forward to shortly meeting with the new Minister for Health and his team to communicate the issues important to our industry, particularly in light of the key reform initiatives underway across Government.

“We’ve been, and remain, fully supportive of the Government’s efforts to achieve lasting and meaningful fact based reform for medical device benefits.

“The MTAA believes the expanded Prostheses List Advisory Committee and new Private Health Ministerial Advisory Committee announced by the Government working with all stakeholders is the right vehicle to progress this work to deliver long-term evidence based reform.

“The MTAA urges the new Minister to continue these reforms which seek to deliver a more sustainable healthcare system for Australians.”

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Did you know?

1. The medical technology industry currently employs more than 19,000 people and generates approximately \$11 billion in revenue.
2. The industry is highly skilled with over 52% of employees having a tertiary qualification, and 25% having a postgraduate qualification.
3. More than half of Australian medical device companies have grown from start-ups. 40% of all medical device businesses have been established since 2000.
4. In 2013-14, Australia exported medical devices to 167 different countries around the world for a total value of \$2.1 billion.
5. Medical technology (7.76%) is second only to Civil Engineering (8.5%) and pharmaceuticals in third (6.3%) when it comes to filing patents for innovative technology.

About MTAA

The Medical Technology Association of Australia (MTAA) is the national association representing companies in the medical technology industry. MTAA aims to ensure the benefits of modern, innovative and reliable medical technology are delivered effectively to provide better health outcomes to the Australian community.

MTAA represents manufacturers and suppliers of medical technology used in the diagnosis, prevention, treatment and management of disease and disability. The range of medical technology is diverse with products ranging from familiar items such as syringes and wound dressings, through to high-technology implanted devices such as pacemakers, defibrillators, hip and other orthopaedic implants. Products also include hospital and diagnostic imaging equipment such as ultrasounds and magnetic resonance imaging machines.

MTAA members distribute the majority of the non-pharmaceutical products used in the diagnosis and treatment of disease and disability in Australia. Our member companies also play a vital role in providing healthcare professionals with essential education and training to ensure safe and effective use of medical technology.