



**MEDIA RELEASE**  
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**MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY COLLABORATION ON PPE SUPPLY PLAYS KEY ROLE IN RETURN TO ELECTIVE SURGERY**

MTAA (Medical Technology Association of Australia) has today welcomed Prime Minister Scott Morrison's announcement that there will be a gradual return to elective surgery starting from next week.

"MTAA has been working closely with the Government to help secure the PPE supplies required to ensure the smooth running of our healthcare system, and we are proud to have played an important role in enabling a return to elective surgery," said MTAA CEO Ian Burgess today.

MTAA's industry working groups have also been instrumental in securing essential supplies of ventilators and test kits on behalf of the Australian Government.

"The medical technology industry welcomes today's announcement that patients will once again have access to life-changing treatments and technology through elective surgery.

"We congratulate Health Minister Greg Hunt and the Morrison Government for taking swift and decisive action to successfully flatten the curve through the elective surgery pause and many other effective measures.

"For a range of medical conditions, what is now non-essential, very quickly becomes essential if left untreated, and a measured and responsible return to elective surgery will ensure continuity of care for those who need it most.

"A gradual and responsible return to elective surgery with the safety of patients and medical personnel front and centre will enable thousands of Australians to access the treatments they need to keep them working, studying and spending more time with their families.

"We look forward to more Australians once again being able to access the life-changing benefits of medical technology," Mr Burgess said.

**ENDS**

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## **Did you know?**

1. The medical technology industry currently employs more than 19,000 people.
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.