



**MEDIA RELEASE**  
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## **COVID-19 HEROES AWARDS**

The Medical Technology Association of Australia (MTAA) is pleased to announce an exciting new initiative to recognise the extraordinary contribution made by Australia's health professionals in combating the COVID-19 pandemic.

MTAA is the national association representing companies in the medical technology industry.

"MTAA is delighted to launch the COVID-19 Heroes Awards on behalf of Australia's medical technology sector," Ian Burgess, MTAA CEO, said today.

"Over the past 18 months the COVID-19 pandemic has placed extraordinary demands on health professionals in Australia.

"Doctors, nurses, Indigenous health workers and other professionals have faced increased workloads, the practical and psychological difficulties involved in managing infection control and the stress associated with exposing themselves and their families to COVID-19 through their work.

"The MTAA COVID-19 Heroes awards will recognise health professionals who have provided exceptional services to patients and the broader community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We are inviting nominations for these awards from consumers, peers, colleagues and community members. Judges for the awards will be leaders in the healthcare sector.

"MTAA is sponsoring prizes for the award including \$10 000 for the winner in the form of a donation to the COVID-19 charity of his/her choice. Runners up will also receive a \$1000 donation in their name.

"The finalists and winners will be presented with their awards at an online event in early December 2021.

"I encourage anyone who has experienced extraordinary dedication and commitment from a health professional during the pandemic to nominate them via the MTAA website.

"The MedTech sector looks forward to recognising their contribution through these awards," Mr Burgess said.

For more information about the awards and to nominate a health professional:  
<https://www.mtaa.org.au/mtaa-covid19-heroes-award>

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## **Did you know?**

1. During COVID-19 the Medical technology industry provided 7,500 ventilators, tens of millions of COVID-19 testing kits, and countless items of PPE including masks and gowns.
2. The medical technology industry currently employs more than 19,000 people.
3. The industry is highly skilled with over 52% of employees having a tertiary qualification, and 25% having a postgraduate qualification.
4. More than half of Australian medical device companies have grown from start-ups. 40% of all medical device businesses have been established since 2000.
5. In 2013-14, Australia exported medical devices to 167 different countries around the world for a total value of \$2.1 billion.
6. 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.