

## MEDIA RELEASE

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# **INDUSTRY HONOURS ITS FINEST IN THE 2020 MEDTECH AWARDS**

The medical technology (MedTech) industry came together this week to honour both MTAA member and nonmember companies and individuals who have made significant contributions to the Australian MedTech industry.

This year saw a total of 29 nominations for the five award categories, which included the first ever Women in MedTech Award for Emerging Women in Leadership.

The Women in MedTech Company award, which is awarded to the company who has been a key contributor to advancing the industry's women in MedTech agenda in Australia went to Medtronic. Led by Liz Carnabuci, Medtronic's leadership team has near 40% women representation, and more than 400+ monthly listeners tuning to the company's podcast in to hear their stories.

The 2020 Women in MedTech Champion Individual award recognises a woman in MedTech who works, every day, to champion diversity and become inspiring leaders for future generations; whilst courageously connecting people to perpetuate sustainable change. The 2020 Women in MedTech Champion Individual award went to Edwards Lifesciences' Yolanda Mallouhi.

This year also saw the introduction of the new, Women in MedTech Award for Emerging Women in Leadership. The inaugural winner has undertaken a project lead role, responsible for the national rollout of a key MedTech device, regularly mentors her peers, assisting them in their goals, and is seen as a measured and emerging leader. Jee May Yong of Fresenius Kabi Australia is the inaugural winner of the Women in MedTech Award for Emerging Women in Leadership.

The Outstanding Achievement Award is the MedTech industry's highest individual award. This award recognises an individual who has contributed in an exceptional way to the development of the Medical Technology Industry in Australia. The 2020 Outstanding Achievement Award has been awarded to Professor Lyn Griffiths, who has, for many years, partnered with industry to translate research outcomes into real patient outcomes.

The MedTech industry's highest award is the Kerrin Rennie Award for Excellence in Medical Technology and Improving Quality of Life. This award is a company award and recognises an innovative and extraordinary contribution to improving health outcomes for Australian patients. Medtronic has been awarded the 2020 Kerrin Rennie Award for their TruClear<sup>™</sup> Hysteroscopic Tissue Removal System. The TruClear<sup>™</sup> system was launched in Australia in 2019 and offers a complete technology platform for the diagnosis and removal of a range of intrauterine abnormalities using pathology-optimised devices.

MTAA CEO, Ian Burgess, made special note of the importance of the industry, particularly during COVID-19, and the great role that all the nominees play within our industry.

"Every individual within the MedTech industry deserves a citation for the way in which they responded to the pandemic, for the countless extra hours worked, for the weekends and late nights, for the weeks spent in

quarantine just so a patient could receive the expert care only our industry can provide. Today we recognise those individuals and companies who have done all this, and more, " Mr Burgess said.

"The winner of the Kerrin Rennie Award for Excellence in Medical Technology and Improving Quality of Life, MedTech's highest award, was Medtronic's TruClear™ Hysteroscopic Tissue Removal System, a device that has the capacity to transform the lives of over 100 million women"

#### ENDS

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## Did you know?

- 1. The medical technology industry currently employs more than 19,000 people.
- 2. During COVID-19 the Government asked MedTech to supply 7,500 ventilators, and over 10 million COVD-19 test kits; the MedTech supply chain worked, and equipment was delivered
- 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.
- 7. MTAA's 2017 agreement with Health Minister, the Hon Greg Hunt MP has saved Aussie families \$1.1 billion health insurers make this in profit every three months

## 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.