

# GP of the Year Awards 2007

## GP of the Year **Dr Peter Tait**



Dr Peter Tait, a general practitioner based in Alice Springs in the Northern Territory, is the RACGP GP of the Year.

The GP of the Year award recognises an individual GP's understanding of, and commitment to, general practice; their service to their community; and their involvement in ongoing training and continuing professional development.

In presenting the award, RACGP President Dr Vasantha Preetham said: 'Dr Tait is a renaissance man of general practice. He pursues diverse academic, social and cultural interests, while generously dedicating his time to improving life outcomes for some of the most disadvantaged people in Australia.

'Peter works to improve the health of Aboriginal Australians and plays a critical role in working for health equity in some

of our most disadvantaged communities.'

Since completing his MBBS in 1978, and 4 years additional training, Dr Tait has worked consistently as a GP in Aboriginal communities in central Australia. He is a dedicated member of the Central Australian Aboriginal Congress where he has worked for 23 years.

Dr Tait has been a visiting medical officer at the Alice Springs Gaol and has worked with the Pintubi Homelands Health Service in a remote Aboriginal community 700 km from Alice Springs.

He is an active community member and is an office bearer with the Medical Association for the Prevention of War. Dr Tait is a true leader in Australian general practice.

## Registrar of the Year **Dr Rachel Harvey**



Dr Rachel Harvey, a general practitioner based in Glenden in North Queensland, is the RACGP Registrar of the Year.

The Registrar of the Year Award recognises an individual general practice registrar's commitment to general practice, to learning, and to serving their community.

Dr Harvey works as the town's only GP and is on call all day, every day. She has refurbished the Glenden Family Medical Centre, updated medical equipment and introduced electronic records. Dr Harvey's work extends to the local mine where she runs a weekly health and wellbeing program. The program includes screening for cardiovascular,

respiratory, mental health and gastrointestinal conditions.

In presenting the award, RACGP President, Dr Vasantha Preetham said: 'Since Dr Harvey arrived in Glenden, attendance at the clinic has tripled. As a medicine dispensing doctor, she provides a complete service, enabling patients to stay in Glenden for their health care needs. She provides a broad range of care including women and children's health, primary share care and antenatal services.

'Dr Harvey's efforts are a great example to all young doctors; the future of general practice is in good hands.'

## Practice of the Year **Longford Medical Services, Tasmania**



Longford Medical Services, a general practice in Longford, Tasmania, is the RACGP National General Practice of the Year.

The General Practice of the Year Award recognises the outstanding work of general practices, the commitment of

the practice to accreditation, the standard of facilities offered to patients and staff, and the services offered to the local community.

In presenting the award, RACGP President, Dr Vasantha Preetham said: 'Longford Medical Services is leading with workforce innovation, the use of evidence in the development of preventive health strategies,

and training future GPs.'

Longford Medical Services is a 25 minute drive from the nearest city and hospital in Launceston. The practice employs seven doctors and provides care 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Many staff members have a long history with the practice – some have worked there for more than 30 years.

The practice is fully computerised, has five consulting rooms in Longford and two in Perth (a historic town 15 km south of Launceston), has a nurse treatment room and a theatre for minor procedures.

Care is focused on health promotion and disease prevention, supported by a patient reminder system, interaction with other community health services, and continued professional development and ongoing training for all staff.