The Royal Australasian College of Medical Administrators (RACMA) Position Statement on Digital Health

June 2025

Introduction

The Royal Australasian College of Medical Administrators (RACMA) recognises digital health as a cornerstone of healthcare transformation. This position statement outlines RACMA's vision for digital health, focusing on leadership in clinical governance and equitable healthcare delivery.

RACMA's Strategic Approach to Digital Health

1. Empowering Patients

Equity in Access: RACMA calls on the government to fund initiatives aimed at bridging digital health disparities, particularly in rural, remote, and underserved communities, ensuring equitable access to technology.

Patient-Centric Design: RACMA supports policies that incentivise co-designed digital health solutions with active patient engagement, fostering usability and trust.

2. Enhancing the Workforce

Digital Literacy: RACMA advocates for the inclusion of digital health competencies in medical training curricula, supported by government investment in professional development.

Workforce Collaboration: RACMA calls for funding to promote interdisciplinary teamwork in digital health initiatives, ensuring seamless collaboration across clinical and administrative domains.

3. Strengthening Organisational Resilience

Interoperability: RACMA emphasises the need for a national strategy to standardise digital health systems, ensuring seamless integration and data sharing across healthcare providers.

Governance and Accountability: RACMA recommends establishing a national regulatory framework to oversee the adoption and governance of digital health tools, prioritising safety and reliability.

Focus Areas for Digital Health Leadership

1. Leadership & Culture: RACMA supports initiatives like "A Better Culture," advocating for government funding to promote leadership-driven digital transformation.

2. Partnering with Consumers: RACMA encourages national frameworks for patient co-design of digital health initiatives, ensuring solutions are tailored to consumer needs.

3. Workforce: RACMA urges investment in targeted training programmes to equip healthcare leaders with skills to manage digital transitions effectively.

4. Risk Management: RACMA calls for national cybersecurity standards and investment in system resilience to mitigate risks such as data breaches and operational failures.

5. Clinical Practice: RACMA advocates for evidence-based evaluation of digital tools to ensure they enhance clinical workflows without undermining clinician autonomy.

Conclusion

RACMA urges the government to prioritise digital health as a critical component of healthcare reform, aligning investments with RACMA's clinical governance framework to achieve safer, more effective, and equitable outcomes. By leveraging its leadership expertise, RACMA can support the healthcare sector in navigating this transformative era.