



His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd)
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

Mr Anthony Sparnon
President
Royal Australasian College of Surgeons
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Dear Mr Sparnon

I am writing to express my sincere and deeply felt gratitude to all health workers and particularly thank all Surgeons around the country for their work to help us contain and treat COVID-19.

The entire country is grateful for the expertise, dedication and selflessness of our medical professionals. On behalf of all Australians, I would like to say thank you to each of your members involved in the response.

The environment in which our Surgeons are working is both demanding and, I am sure, stressful. At the same time our Surgeons are people with families and loved ones of their own. They face the same challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic is presenting for all of us. Their commitment is an inspiration to all of us.

In the normal course of events, Linda and I would be visiting people to thank them for their service. That, of course, is not an option at the moment but I wanted to reach out through you to all those who are serving their fellow Australians. Please feel free to share my sentiments with your members as you see fit.

I wish you all a safe and healthy passage through the next few months. I look forward to being able to thank as many of your members as possible, in person when the conditions allow.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'D' followed by a horizontal line and a diagonal stroke.