

**Dr Christopher Moy MBBS FRACGP**

Dr Chris Moy is a South Australian general practitioner who has made significant contributions to the AMA and the community, particularly in the fields of aged care, falls prevention, end of life care, and e-health.

Dr Moy joined the AMA a year after graduating from the University of Adelaide in 1991. Ownership of an inner Adelaide practice gave him an understanding of the needs of coalface GPs, while the responsibility of caring for a large number of patients in residential aged care facilities gave him a good grasp of the problems besetting this sector. In particular, he saw how poor communication and a lack of co-ordination between the various health care professionals and groups involved in providing care – GPs, aged care operators and hospitals – often caused vulnerable older patients to be hospitalised unnecessarily, sometimes against their wishes. It was clear to him that inconsistency in end of life decision-making and care contributed to this problem and, in typical Chris Moy fashion, he decided to do something about it.

In 2005 he began work on the Aged Care Panel of the Adelaide NE Division of General Practice, where his early work included the development of the now widely used “Two Page Comprehensive Medical Assessment” guide. This involved employing an under-utilised MBS item to encourage GPs to complete a medical summary of patients in aged care facilities to improve the communication of medical information when transferring patients between settings and in emergency situations.

Recognition of the importance of allowing patients to document their wishes in advance led Dr Moy to join the Expert Advisory Group of the SA Advance Directives review in 2006. He developed a deep understanding of the complex legislative, ethical and clinical issues inherent in this area that later helped him in advising Australian Medical Association (SA) on South Australia’s Advance Care Directives Act 2013 – most particularly in negotiations with the State Government on protections for doctors, including when acting in the uncertainty of emergencies, and a confirmation in legislation that doctors cannot be compelled to provide treatment which is of no medical benefit to a dying patient.

In 2010, Chris joined the SA Health End of Life Working Group, from which the 7-Step Pathway-Resuscitation Plan was developed. This is being implemented throughout SA as an improved and consistent framework for doctors to make and document decisions about resuscitation and end of life care.

Dr Moy’s vision of a coherent statewide approach to end of life care has led him to work on many SA Health committees, including the Advance Care Directive Education Subcommittee, the Resuscitation Planning Advisory Group, the End of Life Prescribing Working Group and the Palliative Care Clinical Network Steering Committee.

In 2008, Chris joined the HealthConnectSA Care Planning and Communication Trial and SA Health PrimaryCare Sidebar Project which developed a prototype e-health record. He subsequently represented the AMA on the Telehealth Advisory Group, which oversaw the initial implementation of Medicare-funded telehealth across Australia. In 2012, he represented the AMA on the Independent Advisory Committee of the national Personally Controlled Electronic Health Record (PCEHR) system, where he developed an understanding of the serious usability problems that had arisen in the PCEHR. This led to AMA representations on the National E-Health Transition Authority (NEHTA) Clinical Usability Program Steering Group. Through this work, the AMA has been instrumental in contributing to the repair of the PCEHR. Dr Moy has also been appointed to the PCEHR Operations Management Committee and, in an area prone to over-complexity and hubris, he has consistently applied commonsense thinking and the principle that e-health tools should only assist, and never disrupt, the normal workflow patterns of clinicians.

In 2008, Dr Moy joined the Central and Northern Adelaide Local Health Network Falls Prevention Steering Committee, which has developed a coherent service to reduce falls in older people – an under-recognised problem in health.

While maintaining full-time work in general practice, balanced by a happy life with a supportive family, Dr Moy has been an active member of the Australian Medical Association (SA) Council as well as various sub-committees. In 2014, he joined the AMA Federal Council.

Dr Moy’s contributions to the AMA and the community have been significant, and his willingness to lend a hand when asked has been unwavering.

He has made a strong contribution to the Australian Medical Association and is a most worthy candidate for admission to the Roll of Fellows.