STATEMENT



24 September 2021

Statement Regarding Dr Simon Floreani

The Australian Chiropractors Association (ACA) supports the decision of the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (the Tribunal) to suspend the registration of Dr Simon Floreani for six months for professional misconduct for publicly promoting anti-vaccination material. This included linking childhood vaccination to poison and permitting an anti-vaccination movie to be screened in his clinic.

Dr Floreani was referred to the Tribunal in March 2019 by the Chiropractic Board of Australia (the Board). The specific allegations against Dr Floreani, as set out in the Board's Notice of Allegations, were admitted in full by him and were found proven by the Tribunal.

In its decision, the Tribunal noted that Dr Floreani had made "flawed, inaccurate and dangerous statements" knowing those statements were entirely inconsistent with the Code of Conduct for Chiropractors and statements from the Board.

The full Tribunal decision is available <u>here</u>.

In a statement on its website, the Board's Chair Dr Wayne Minter AM welcomed the finding. "Chiropractors are trusted members of Australia's health workforce," he said. "It is a breach of that trust when they share or promote information that isn't evidence-based or in line with the best available health advice."

ACA members understand their obligations and requirements under the National Law. Individual practitioners are entitled to hold personal beliefs about matters such as vaccination. However, as regulated healthcare professionals their interactions with the public are legally bound not to contradict or counter public health campaigns.

The Tribunal said the current situation with COVID-19 highlights the "responsibility of chiropractors and other health practitioners to provide balanced, unbiased and evidence-based information in order to enable members of the public to make informed health decisions, to work within the scope of their practice and not to allow personal views to influence patient care."

For more information read this Statement on the website of the Chiropractic Board of Australia.

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