

MEDIA RELEASE

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Diploma of Cosmetic Medicine launched

The Australasian College of Cosmetic Surgery (ACCS) has launched the first Diploma of Cosmetic Medicine in Australia.

The program will train doctors in non-surgical procedures such as skin care, botox, scar treatment, wrinkle treatment, acne management strategies and laser and light based therapies.

Dr John Flynn, CEO of the ACCS, said the Diploma was introduced to provide doctors with better expertise in the field of cosmetic medicine and help raise standards.

“Cosmetic medicine has become much more popular over the years and so the College felt it was important to train doctors in this field to better help protect patients,” Dr Flynn said.

“The program has just been launched in Australia but was introduced two years ago in Hong Kong in partnership with the Hong Kong Chapter of the College” he said.

Dr Flynn said the first group of Hong Kong doctors recently graduated from the Diploma of Cosmetic Medicine after culmination of their two-year degree.

“It is great to be able to share expertise with the Hong Kong group. The new graduates have learned new techniques and reinforced essential skills that are going to make a positive difference in their practice,” Dr Flynn said.

To complete the program over two years, doctors must attend a range of compulsory workshops, attendance at accredited conferences and meetings, private study, completion of set exercises, maintenance of log books of practice activity, participation in an approved body of research and production of one piece of research accepted for publication in a peer reviewed journal.

Successful participants have to adhere to and complete the College’s continuing medical education and recertification programs.

The Australasian College of Cosmetic Surgery is the only professional organisation in Australia which provides training, accreditation by examination and mandatory annual recertification specifically in cosmetic surgery and cosmetic medicine.

Medical practitioners with at least five years approved basic postgraduate experience can apply to join a two-year cosmetic surgery or cosmetic medical training program organised and supervised by the College.

Since its foundation, the College has been a supporter of regulation that would raise surgery standards and protect patients. It is looking to cooperate with industry groups such as the Australian Medical Association, medical practitioners boards, Government and regulatory bodies to establish higher standards of skill and practice in the field of cosmetic or aesthetic surgery.

The ACCS was established in 1999 as the only multidisciplinary body in Australia which offers formal training and accreditation in cosmetic medicine and surgery. The College has medical and surgical faculties which accredit cosmetic physicians and surgeons.

For more information, visit www.accs.org.au or call 1800 804 781.