



PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

23 April 1985

I have advised the Council of Procedural Specialists that the Commonwealth Government will not be represented at the Council's meeting on Saturday 27 April.

I understand that the Federal Branch of the Australian Medical Association has also declined to attend the meeting.

The Council should abide by the wishes of the overwhelming majority of the medical profession and resume duty in the New South Wales public hospital system.

Attached is a letter that was today sent to Dr Bruce Shepherd, President of the Council of Medical Procedural Specialists.



PRIME MINISTER

CANBERRA

23 APR 1985

Dear Dr Shepherd

I have received your letter of 19 April 1985 inviting the Commonwealth Government to be represented at the meeting of the Council of Medical Procedural Specialists to be held on Saturday 27 April 1985.

No useful purpose would be served by Commonwealth representation at the meeting.

The terms of the Commonwealth and New South Wales Governments' package have been well canvassed. An overwhelming majority of the medical profession have indicated their support for the package and their belief that the Council's industrial action should cease to allow restoration of full services in the New South Wales public hospital system.

In the interests of the medical profession, and public patients in New South Wales hospitals, I believe that at its meeting the Council should now agree to recommend a return to normal duties.

Yours sincerely

R.J.L. Hawke

Dr Bruce Shepherd
President
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