

ADF Health

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Foreword by the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence



AUSTRALIA is playing a significant international role in the provision of health services to those in need. Our Defence Health Service, in particular, has created a proud record with its medical, nursing and dental services in Rwanda, Somalia, Cambodia and Bougainville.

More recently, it has played a significant role in the emergency response to the stricken communities of Sandaun Province in Papua New Guinea following the Aitape tidal wave disaster of 1998.

In Australia's area of military interest, both preventive health and the provision of clinical services are of the greatest importance.

This new journal is, in effect, a coming of age. It will become a major means of disseminating collective military medical knowledge. It will also act as a professional conduit between the Australian Defence Force and Australian medical, dental and nursing schools, as well as to institutes of preventive medicine and public health. In addition, this journal will contribute to the professional needs of Reserve service men and women working in the health professions of physiotherapy, radiography, laboratory sciences and pharmacy.

Most importantly, this publication is the first to codify the professional triservice ethos of the Australian Defence Force Health Service. It complements existing Corps journals such as *Paulatim* (the Royal Australian Army Medical Corps), *Cadmus* (the Royal Australian Army Dental Corps) and *Grey and Scarlet* (the journal of the Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps).

The journal will also provide a much-needed forum for the promotion of research in all the health disciplines and will integrate a number of specialist themes, including those of health logistics, medical administration in the armed services and medical history.

I am sure this journal will take its place among those international medical journals that are of crucial importance in maintaining standards and promoting best-practice health in all its forms.

The Honourable Bruce Scott MP

**Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence
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