

Survey finds difficulties accessing patient records leads to unnecessary tests

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The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) has recently reported on the findings of a 2018 nationwide survey conducted by Choosing Wisely Australia. The survey into “Why health professionals request a test, treatment or procedure” found that 54% of general practitioners and 61% of specialists listed difficulties in accessing information from doctors in other settings, including results as a contributing factor into undertaking unnecessary treatment.

The results demonstrate that the challenges faced in accessing records could be a significant contributor to undertaking avoidable tests, treatments and procedures. According to CEO of Choosing Wisely Australia, there is a drive to improve communication across care settings and ultimately reduce unnecessary medical treatment and tests.

Read RACGP's news alert [here](#) and the results of the survey and report [here](#).

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Stella Richards

Lawyer

+61 3 8637 9404

SRichards@rk.com.au

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advises both private clients and those in the .

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