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### **QUEENSLAND JUNIOR DOCTOR CONFERENCE**

Hundreds of trainee doctors will be practising CPR, defibrillation and other life-saving skills this weekend when the Australian Medical Association (AMA) Queensland hosts its annual Junior Doctor Conference at the Hilton Hotel in Brisbane.

This year's event includes a 'skills speedway' that will pit junior doctors against one another in a race to complete simulated medical procedures.

"One of the procedures involves drilling as many holes as possible into raw egg without cracking the shell," said AMA Queensland Council of Doctors in Training Deputy Chair Marco Giuseppin.

"The egg challenge allows junior doctors to practice the technique of gaining intraosseous access or injecting directly into the marrow of a bone."

Dr Giuseppin said the egg challenge was one of several unusual simulations used to train doctors before they were able to work on human patients.

"For example, when learning to suture, trainee doctors will use pig trotters which have a similar texture and feel to human flesh and for other exercises they use mannequins or other apparatus," he said.

More than 25 keynote speakers will address the sixth annual conference, including Queensland Health Minister Steven Miles who will participate in a discussion on AMA Queensland's 2018 Residential Hospital Health Check report.

The report surveyed 615 junior doctors across Queensland and revealed 46 per cent were worried about making a clinical error due to fatigue caused by long work hours.

It also found 38 per cent had personally experienced bullying, harassment or discrimination at work while 43 per cent had witnessed a colleague endure the adverse behaviour. Of all doctors who had experienced or witnessed bullying, harassment or discrimination, 61 per cent felt there was nothing they could do about it.

AMA Queensland Council of Doctors in Training chair, Hashim Abdeen, said the conference would also hear from doctors who have developed innovative methods of taking medicine to the streets, including the founders of the Hep C Kombi Clinic which travels to people at higher risk of Hepatitis C.

In 2017, Drs Joss O'Loan and Matt Young became concerned about the high number of people with hepatitis C in their area, so they started taking the service to drug rehab centres and rough sleeping locations in Inala.

Brisbane cardiologist Dr Rolf Gomes will also speak on the success of his Heart of Australia clinic which provides specialist medical services including cardiology and respiratory medicine services to people in the Outback.

Dr Abdeen said the conference was an opportunity for young doctors to network, learn new techniques and present their research.

**Media contacts: Chiara Lesevre, AMA Queensland: 0419 735 641; Michelle Helle, Sequel PR: 0411 112 11**