

PO Box 104 | Gladesville NSW 1675 DX: 22808 Gladesville Telephone: (02) 9879 2200 Facsimile: (02) 9816 5307

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## MEDIA STATEMENT Dr Jeremy Michael Coleman 29 May 2017

The Medical Council of New South Wales is entrusted with the preservation of appropriate professional standards in the practice of medicine, and in safeguarding the trust of the public in the medical profession. The Medical Council takes this role very seriously and will always act to impose conditions on a doctor's registration, or suspend a doctor's registration to practise medicine, when appropriate.

In 2014, the Council was made aware of allegations of professional misconduct by Dr Jeremy Coleman of Newcastle. While the allegations were investigated by the police and the NSW Health Care Complaints Commission, the Council imposed conditions on Dr Coleman's registration that included a requirement for a chaperone to be present when he was examining female patients.

On 11 March 2016, the Council was informed that Dr Coleman had been charged by police with a number of counts of sexual assault, indecent assault and an act of indecency. The Council responded by removing his capacity to practise medicine on Tuesday 22 March 2016. It used its statutory powers to formally suspend Dr Coleman's registration effective from 2 August 2016.

In taking the decision to suspend Dr Coleman's registration, the Medical Council considered the increased number and serious nature of the charges and its responsibility to ensure protection of the public and maintain continued trust and confidence in the medical profession.

The Council is not the appropriate authority to assess the guilt or innocence of Dr Coleman. This is a matter for determination by the judicial system.

By law, the Medical Council of NSW is unable to provide any further information about Dr Jeremy Coleman nor can it comment on matters related to his trial.

Information regarding the practising status, including conditions placed on registered Australian practitioners, can be found at the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) website (https://www.ahpra.gov.au/).

(Please attribute to: A spokesperson from the Medical Council of NSW)