



## **Emergency Response Planning Tool (ERPT) – Why you should register to use it now!**

**Significant environmental events such as bushfires, flooding and even an earthquake could have a catastrophic effect on your practice and your ability to provide services to your community.**

As we saw at the end of 2019 and into 2020 the bushfires had devastating consequences and will impact many Victorians for years to come.

General practice in these areas should play a significant role in the community's response to any major event but to be able to do this your practice, and its staff need to be prepared. Fully completing the ERPT will ensure that your practice has an emergency response plan ready for all eventualities. Have a cloud based online emergency response plan for your practice;

- Consider the risks that your environment and geography pose in your planning process
- Understand that should your clinic be damaged; your emergency response plan should help you to re-establish services as soon as possible
- Staff members personally preparing for the aftermath of an emergency will ensure that they are able to respond appropriately.

**Completing the ERPT will help you prepare for accreditation. The ERPT is the RACGP-recommended tool for GP practices to prepare for emergencies and pandemics and complies with the fifth edition RACGP standards.**

**The Victorian Department of Health is funding GP practices in Victoria to use the ERPT and Healthpoint ANZ is supporting you by helping you get started via a videocall training session.**

So, if you are coming up for accreditation in 2022 and you want to go away for the holiday season with minimal interruption, using the ERPT to put all your practice emergency response information in one place is important. Act now to prepare your practice for a bushfire, flooding, power outages and other unplanned events, register for the ERPT at <https://erpt.racgp.org.au> and start your planning immediately.

Victorian government subsidies for the ERPT will end in December 2023, so make the most of your opportunity to get your ERPT in place now.