AMA Victoria statement on abortion

In Victoria, abortion is a medical procedure – not a crime.

AMA Victoria’s position on abortion remains unchanged since 2008: termination of pregnancy is a health issue and as a medical procedure should not form part of the criminal law.

AMA Victoria does not support MP Rachel Carling-Jenkins’ Infant Viability Bill 2015.

AMA Victoria’s position on abortion is reflected in the AMA’s position statement on Women’s Health, which states: “Women should have access to legal and safe abortion; reliable, safe and affordable contraception; information and services to support adoption or maintaining a pregnancy; and appropriate sexual and reproductive health and information. Health services and policies should support women’s health throughout pregnancy and birth. Critical recognition should be given to improving access to such services and information in rural and remote areas, and to ensuring that services, information and targeted programs are available and appropriate for women with limited language literacy, women with disabilities, women from cultural and linguistically diverse backgrounds, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women.”

AMA Victoria’s position on abortion is supported by the AMA Victoria Board and AMA Victoria Council, which voted in support of the decriminalisation of abortion in 2008. However, this position cannot be read as representing the views of all doctors.