

Dr. <merge surname>  
<merge mailing address>

<Merge date>

Dear Dr. <merge surname>

**MABEL 2011**  
**Medicine in Australia: Balancing Employment and Life**

I am inviting you to participate in a landmark national longitudinal survey of doctors (MABEL) which is funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), and conducted by the University of Melbourne and Monash University. In an era of doctor shortages and increasing demands for your time, getting the right balance between your work life and life outside medicine is crucial. Managing these pressures, whilst maintaining the quality of the care you provide, your motivation and your work satisfaction, is critical for you, your patients and for the future of medical practice.

Around 10,500 doctors completed Waves 1 and 2 of the survey (in 2008 and 2009), and most have also completed Wave 3 (2010). We are now offering you the opportunity to join Wave 4 (2011). I hope you will consider participating as your views and experiences are vital to the success of the survey. Some results and publications relating to Waves 1 and 2 data are now available at: [www.mabel.org.au](http://www.mabel.org.au)

MABEL has been endorsed by 38 medical colleges and organisations (listed overleaf). A Policy Reference Group provides advice to us to ensure that the survey is relevant, and also assists with the implementation of results to ensure they will make a difference. For more details, please read the enclosed information about MABEL.

There are two ways to complete the survey:

- 1) Fill out the enclosed hardcopy survey and return it to the Melbourne Institute in the enclosed, postage-paid envelope, OR
- 2) Complete the survey online by logging in through our secure website [www.mabel.org.au](http://www.mabel.org.au) using the username and password below, *selecting* the survey relevant to your doctor status (including if different from the doctor-type we sent you) and following the simple instructions.

**Username:** <merge username>    **Password:** <merge password>

If you have recently changed your professional status (e.g. you are no longer in training but are now a specialist), we may have sent you the wrong version of the questionnaire. If this is the case and you wish to do a paper version of the survey, please fax back the enclosed form and we will post the correct questionnaire to you, or contact our survey manager Anne Leahy by email ([enquiries@mabel.org.au](mailto:enquiries@mabel.org.au)) or phone (03 8344 2600), quoting your username.

If you have any queries please feel free to contact our survey manager.

I sincerely hope you will participate in this major study by completing the MABEL survey. The research team looks forward to receiving your response. Thank you in anticipation.

Yours sincerely



Professor Anthony Scott  
Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research

## **Endorsements**

MABEL has been endorsed by the following organisations and professional bodies.

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners  
Royal Australasian College of Physicians  
Royal Australasian College of Surgeons  
Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists  
Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists  
Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia  
Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists  
Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists  
Australasian College for Emergency Medicine  
Australasian College of Sports Physicians  
Australian College of Remote and Rural Medicine  
Joint Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine  
Australian Society of Anaesthetists  
Australian and New Zealand Intensive Care Society  
Australia and New Zealand Society of Palliative Medicine  
Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons  
Australian Society of Nephrology  
Australian and New Zealand Society for Geriatric Medicine  
Internal Medicine Society of Australia and New Zealand  
Australasian Society of Career Medical Officers  
Australian Rheumatology Association  
Australian Orthopaedic Association  
Medical Oncology Group of Australia  
Rural Doctors Association of Australia  
Rural Health Workforce Australia  
Australian Health Care and Hospitals Association  
Australian Private Hospitals Association  
Australian Medical Council  
General Practice Registrars Australia Ltd  
Australian General Practice Training  
Australian General Practice Network  
Confederation of Postgraduate Medical Education Councils  
Postgraduate Medical Council of Victoria  
Postgraduate Medical Council of South Australia  
Postgraduate Medical Education Council of Queensland  
Postgraduate Medical Institute of Tasmania  
Postgraduate Medical Institute of Western Australia  
NSW Institute of Medical Education and Training