



More nurses good practice

AMA QUEENSLAND is calling for governments to boost the number of practice nurses in Queensland to improve patient access to care.

AMA Queensland president Dr Mason Stevenson said ensuring practice nurses were employed throughout the state would be an immediate and cost-effective measure to improve the efficiency of general practice.

"A recent report funded by the Australian Primary Health Care

Research Institute found practice nurses helped take pressure off GPs, subsequently improving patient access to care," Dr Stevenson said.

"Practice nurses are able to carry out a myriad of clinical tasks under the direction of a GP allowing more time for GPs to see additional patients.

"If every practice had a practice nurse, it would allow each GP on average to see an additional 800 patients annually."