



HEALTH  
PROFESSIONS  
ACCREDITATION  
COLLABORATIVE  
FORUM

Australia's accreditation authorities  
for regulated health professionals

## Communiqué: Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum – 21 September 2018 meeting

The Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum (the Forum), is the Forum of accreditation authorities with the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the Scheme).

This communiqué outlines the main discussions and decisions made at the most recent Forum meeting.

### Forum's Strategic Plan 2017 – 2019

The work plan of the Forum is articulated in the Forum's Strategic Plan, available on the Forum's website here: <http://www.hpacf.org.au/statementsandpositionpapers>.

The following projects within the Strategic Plan were advanced at the September meeting.

#### Public Safety

##### ***Adopt a consistent approach to accreditation requirements for the safe and effective use of medicines***

Public consultation will open shortly seeking stakeholder views on the proposed framework, which will be presented along with a set of consultation questions in the discussion document. Public submissions, for the proposed adoption across the professions, will be available via the Forum website <http://www.hpacf.org.au/statements-and-submissions/projects/> and will be using an online survey tool.

#### Growth and Innovation

##### ***Support focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health through health professional education accreditation standards***

The Forum thanks those who participated in the recent thematic review. A more detailed analysis is now being conducted and is expected to be completed in early 2019. The Forum will use this information to inform further projects and potential policy changes, to assist in the development of a culturally safe health workforce and work towards improving health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. An infographic has been released and is available at <http://www.hpacf.org.au/news/>

#### Governance

##### ***Agree on the optimal governance structure of the Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum (HPACF)***

The Forum members considered an option paper outlining future optimal governance structures of the Forum that will enable the Forum to better demonstrate a collective approach to performance and improvements in efficiencies in the functions of accreditation. The Forum agreed for further work to be taken forward by the Forum working group on this item.

## General Business

- **National Boards and Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA)** -- the Forum met with Mr Ian Bluntish, Co-Convenor, Forum of NRAS Chairs and Mr Chris Robertson, Executive Director Strategy and Policy, AHPRA, who gave a short presentation on the work of the National Boards and AHPRA within the national scheme.
- **Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA)** – following the recent meeting between the Forum and TEQSA, the Forum is further discussing with TEQSA how the two bodies can strengthen their relationship and recognize their complimentary roles.
- **The LIME Network (*Leaders in Indigenous Medical Education*)**  
The Forum has been invited and has accepted the offer for a Forum representative to participate as a key informant to the LIME Network to be involved in a research project to scope the development of an Indigenous health network for the health sciences.
- **CLEAR - Asia Pacific Regional Symposium program**  
On behalf of the Forum, Ms Narelle Mills, CEO, Australian Dental Council, will be presenting at the [CLEAR Asia Pacific Regional Symposium](#) to be held in Wellington, New Zealand on 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018 on the Forum work in how accreditation can improve health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and/or Māori peoples.

### Next Meeting

The Forum will progress strategic priorities at its next meeting in early December 2018.

**Ms Bronwyn Clark**

**Chair**

**Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum**

September 2018

Future communiqués will be published on the Forum's website and sent to interested stakeholders. Please feel free to forward the communiqués to colleagues who may be interested in the Forum's work, or email [info@hpacf.org.au](mailto:info@hpacf.org.au) for inclusion in our mailing list.

<http://www.hpacf.org.au>