



HEALTH
PROFESSIONS
ACCREDITATION
COLLABORATIVE
FORUM

Australia's accreditation authorities
for regulated health professionals

Communiqué: Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum – 6 December 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 December meeting.

Public Safety

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

Public consultation seeking stakeholder views on the proposed framework has been completed. While the information from responses are still being collated, the responses show considerable support for a common framework. A report on the findings will be presented to the next Forum meeting and it is anticipated will be available publicly via the Forum website <http://www.hpacf.org.au/statements-andsubmissions/projects/> in early 2019.

Growth and Innovation

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

A more detailed analysis is now being conducted on the thematic review 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 achieve improved health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Governance

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

The Forum will be conducting its Strategic plan review early next year, following which, refining the future purpose and functions of the evolving Forum will be confirmed and the structure for optimal governance progressed.

General Business

• **Media, Communiqué and Forum News Items**

Since the September 2018 Forum meeting there have been a number of news items, media release and communiqués related to higher education and accreditation that can be found on the Forum website, these include:

- *Review of accreditation arrangements – assignments of accreditation functions, Aug 2018*

- *Media Release on the Accreditation Systems Review – Final Report released, Oct 2018*
- *Memorandum of Understanding between the Forum and TEQSA, Nov 2018*

- **CLEAR's Asia Pacific Symposium – November 2018, New Zealand**

On behalf of the Forum, Ms Narelle Mills, CEO, Australian Dental Council, gave a presentation at the CLEAR Asia Pacific Symposium on the Forum's work on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Project.

- **Position Statement on Interprofessional Learning (IPE) – updated endorsement**

While these principles were agreed to by the then members of the Health Professions Accreditation Councils' Forum in 2015 they are still relevant today and agreed to by all current members of the Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum in November 2018.

- **Paramedicine Board of Australia**

The Forum has noted with interest the recent announcement by the Paramedicine Board of Australia that the accreditation functions for the paramedicine profession will be exercised by a committee established by the Board for the next three years. The Forum looks forward to working with the incoming Chair of the Committee, alongside the Chairs of the three other Committees supported by APHRA's Accreditation Unit, and eleven independent accreditation Councils.

- **National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (NRAS) 2019 Research Summit**

Forum members look forward to participating in the 2019 Research Summit. The Chair of the Forum will contribute as a panel member for the session titled "**Partnerships for regulatory effectiveness**" to be held in Melbourne in February 2019.

Next Meeting

Prior to the Forums' next meeting Forum members will be attending a meeting of the National Board Chairs and Executive Officers, Accreditation Council Chairs and CEOs and representatives of AHPRA and its Committee, to discuss accreditation issues of common interest. The theme for this meeting, held in Melbourne in late February 2019 alongside the Research Summit, is **Health Regulation in the digital era**.

The Forum will progress strategic priorities at its next meeting in March 2019.

Ms Bronwyn Clark

Chair

Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum

December 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 for inclusion or to unsubscribe from this mailing list.

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