



HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACCREDITATION COLLABORATIVE FORUM

Australia's accreditation authorities
for regulated health professionals

Communiqué: Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum – December 2019 meeting

The Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum (the Forum), is the Forum of the 15 accreditation authorities with the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the Scheme).

This Communiqué outlines activity from the most recent Forum meeting.

Forum Members congratulated the Chair, Ms Bronwyn Clark (CEO, Australian Pharmacy Council) and Deputy Chair, Mr Michael Shobbrook AM (Deputy Chair, Council on Chiropractic Education Australasia) who were recently re-elected for these office bearer positions for a further 2 years, until 2021.

Forum's Strategic Plans

The Forum is currently developing the Strategic Plan for 2020 – 2022 and will be available on the Forum's website when finalised in late February next year. The current work plan of the Forum is articulated in the Forum's Strategic Plan 2017 – 2019 and is available on the Forum's website here: <http://www.hpacf.org.au/statementsandpositionpapers>.

Project to Develop an Accreditation Standard to describe Interprofessional collaboration practice principles, interprofessional education and accreditation tools

The Forum IPE working group is currently working to develop consensus IPE guidance to enable Forum members embed IPE in accreditation standards and program assessments. They have recently gathered preliminary baseline data on IPE accreditation practices from all member authorities. A comprehensive report from the data collected was presented to Forum members for consideration. Members comments on the findings will be discussed further at the next IPE working group meetings to develop the next steps of this project.

Project to Develop a Framework for Safe and Effective Use of Medicines

The Forum completed a survey of stakeholders on the proposed Framework for accreditation requirements for the safe and effective use of medicines in 2019. Detailed analysis of the stakeholder response, and proposed changes to the Framework paper as a result of the stakeholder feedback was circulated to the working group for review with the detailed report presented to Forum members at the meeting. Rather than duplicate good work that already exists in this area for prescribers, this Framework aims to provide guidance for all health professions working with people who may be using medications. Members comments on the findings will be discussed further at the next working group meeting on how to progress this project further.

General Business

- **National Boards and Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA)**

The Forum met with Mr Paul Shinkfield, National Director, Strategy and Research, who gave a presentation and discussed the work currently being undertaken in developing the Scheme Strategy 2020 -2025 to members.

Joint meeting with the National Scheme Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Strategy Group

The Forum was very pleased to be invited to meet with the Strategy Group the day following its business meeting. The topics that were discussed with Forum and Strategy group members included:

- Engagement between the Strategy Group and the Forum
- Cultural Safety Definition
- Role of Accreditation
- Strategy overview
- Examples of work being undertaken by accreditation authorities aiming to improve health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders

Both the Forum and the Strategy Group look forward to working in partnership to enhance the medical care for our first nations peoples.

Next Meeting

The Forum will progress strategic priorities at its next meeting in February 2020 and looks forward to discussions re the NRAS Strategy 2020 – 2025 with Mr Paul Shinkfield. The February meeting will be held along with the NRAS Combined Meetings and Research Summit in Melbourne.

Ms Bronwyn Clark

Chair

Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum

December 2019

Future communiqués will be published on the Forum's website <http://www.hpacf.org.au> 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.