



HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACCREDITATION COLLABORATIVE FORUM

Australia's accreditation authorities
for regulated health professionals

Communiqué: Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum – October 2020 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 held on 2 October 2020, which was held via ZOOM. The meeting was an inaugural meeting of a smaller group representing all Forum members, comprising the CEO's/EO's of the independent councils and the Ahpra Accreditation Committees Chairs.

Recognition of the impact of COVID-19 on education and monitoring of accreditation

All the professions were represented in general discussions around the following:

- Accreditation issues – clinical placements, graduations for 2020
- Accreditation visits – remote and virtual
- Assessments of overseas practitioners – impact of restrictions, border closures
- Examinations - impact of restrictions, border closures

Members recognised the extraordinary work that university and education providers are doing as they continue to deliver programs and also acknowledged the disruption and resilience of the thousands of health professional students who are studying in these extraordinary times. They also expressed thanks to all health professionals who are keeping our community safe during the pandemic while continuing to teach and supervise students in their practices and health services.

Members shared how they are adapting their own accreditation activities during travel and border closure restrictions and agreed to develop joint principles document on how best to undertake remote and virtual accreditation site visits and monitoring covering all the 15 professions.

Forum's Strategic Plan 2020-2023

The Forum has set up a working group to update the Forum's website under **Pillar 4 Stakeholder Engagement**. The website is seen as an important area to assist in informing our stakeholders what the Forum is working on and currently with respect of this COVID-19 period.

The Forum will progress strategic priorities of the new Strategic Plan, which is available on the Forum's website [HPAC Strategic Plan 2020 - 2023](#) at its next meeting.

Presentations and Stakeholder meetings

The Chair and Deputy Chair were invited to present an overview of the Forum's activities to the most recent meeting of the Accreditation Advisory Committee of Ahpra's Agency Management Committee. The Chair has also represented the Forum meetings with Universities Australia and their Health Professions Education Standing Working Group (HEPSG).

Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting for is at the beginning of November 2020.

Ms Bronwyn Clark

Chair

Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum

October 2020

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.