



HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACCREDITATION COLLABORATIVE FORUM

Australia's accreditation authorities
for regulated health professionals

Communiqué: Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum – October 2021 meeting

The Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum (the Forum) is the coalition of the 15 accreditation authorities for the regulated health professions in Australia with the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the Scheme).

This Communiqué outlines activity from the most recent Forum meeting held on 15 October 2021. The meeting was of a smaller group representing all Forum members, comprising the CEO's/EO's for the independent councils and the Ahpra Accreditation Committee Chairs. Held annually, these meetings offer an opportunity to workshop specific areas of interest of the Forum.

Discussions were in alignment with the pillars of the current [HPAC Forum 2020 - 2025 Strategic Plan](#). The plan is available on the Forum's website.

Presentations

Ms Erin Werkmeister, Director, AHSI, Health and Disability Interface Section of the Commonwealth Department of Health were invited to the meeting to commence engagement on the development of the Intellectual Disability Health Competency Framework.

Ms Werkmeister gave an overview of the project in regard to the Framework which is an outcome of the work on the National Roadmap developed over the past two years which a number of Forum members have been engaged with. ([National Roadmap for Improving the Health of People with Intellectual Disability](#)). Support for the Framework was provided by way of funding by the Commonwealth government in early 2021.

Strategic Activities

Members received an update of the inaugural meeting of the Accreditation Committee Ahpra Agency Management Committee in response to a policy direction from the Ministerial Council issued in February 2021. The Forum Chair and Deputy Chair are the Forum nominees on the Accreditation Committee. Further information regarding the Accreditation Committee, including the outcomes of the meeting are available on the Ahpra website [here](#).

Members approved the release of a Request for Proposal to commission work on cultural safety training for assessors involved in the accreditation of health practitioner education programs.

Accreditation authorities acknowledge the significant role of their accreditation teams in assessing education programs and providers against the standards. We are committed to ensuring teams have the knowledge, skills and professional attributes to support informed, professional and consistent assessments against standards, including standards that contribute to development of a culturally safe health workforce. This work is expected to commence in 2022.

Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting will be 3 December 2021 and looks forward to discussions with invited guest Ms Richelle McCausland, Ombudsman and Commissioner, National Health Practitioner Ombudsman.

Ms Narelle Mills
Chair
Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum
October 2021

Our Vision is *“Better health outcomes through high quality accreditation and assessment services for all regulated health professions within Australia”*.

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.