



HEALTH
PROFESSIONS
ACCREDITATION
COLLABORATIVE
FORUM

Australia's accreditation authorities
for regulated health professionals

Communiqué Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum July 2023 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 to keep stakeholders informed about its work.

Discussions are in alignment with the pillars of the current [HPAC Forum 2023 - 2025 Strategic Plan](#), which is available on the Forum's website.

Stakeholder Engagement

Mr Martin Fletcher, CEO, Ahpra, and Mr Chris Robertson, Executive Director, Strategy and Policy, Ahpra attended the meeting to discuss collaboration in the Scheme between the Forum and the Forum of National Chairs (FoNC). Updates were provided in relation to the [Kruk Review](#) Interim Report and other strategic items of mutual interest and benefit to the Scheme.

Ahpra has engaged BDO to review mechanisms for identifying the costs of accreditation in the Scheme. Over the last 6 months, Forum members have engaged with BDO individually and collectively to inform this work. BDO attended the Forum meeting to discuss the draft report on the Cost of Accreditation in the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme. Forum members provided verbal and written feedback to BDO regarding the approach to capturing cost of accreditation in the Scheme, including some of the challenges which had not been identified in the report. The Forum will continue to work with Ahpra to ensure the costs of accreditation can be accurately captured for stakeholders.

Innovation

Forum members reviewed an Interim Report of the Interprofessional Education (IPE) project. Participation rates in the focus groups were high, with data from consumers providing a narrative to demonstrate the value and importance of the central role of consumers in collaborative care and how this should influence IPE in health professional education. Three articles, with co-authorship from Forum members, will be produced as part of this work alongside a report with examples of IPE. Both of these will inform guidance for the Forum on how to ensure accredited health practitioner programs can produce collaborative practitioners within their programs.

Leadership

The work to develop training for accreditation assessors is progressing well with the curriculum development group now established to provide feedback on the learning outcomes. All members of this group are experienced assessors, with the majority of the membership being Indigenous with impressive and varied backgrounds in teaching and learning. Working with ABSTARR Consulting over the next two months, it is expected that the training will be available to pilot in December 2023 with a full roll out in 2024.

Effectiveness and Efficiency

The Forum is committed to its purpose to work collaboratively with our member organisations and other stakeholders to improve the quality, efficiency and effectiveness of accreditation and assessment in the Scheme for the benefit of the community. As part of this commitment, the Forum is reviewing its governance to ensure that it is fit for this purpose.

Forum members noted the progress by the working group to review the governance of the Forum. Legal advice is being sought to inform discussion by the Forum at the October 2023 meeting and decision on a governance model for consultation.

Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the Forum will be held in Melbourne in October 2023. Representatives from the Advisory Group, from Department of Health and Aged Care will be presenting an update to Members on the [Intellectual Disability Capability Framework](#) project.

Ms Narelle Mills

Chair

Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum

August 2023

Our Vision is “*Better and safer 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.