



HEALTH
PROFESSIONS
ACCREDITATION
COLLABORATIVE
FORUM

Australia's accreditation authorities
for regulated health professionals

Communiqué

Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum

New cultural safety training for health accreditation professionals

The Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative (HPAC) Forum have partnered with ABSTARR consulting to implement cultural safety training for accreditation assessors.

“As signatories to the [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Strategy – Statement of Intent](#), forum members recognise that clinical and cultural safety are essential to patient safety,” said Dr Terry Crisp, Chair of the Forum.

Accreditation authorities play a critical role in ensuring that health practitioners have the necessary skills and behaviours to practice competently and safely in Australian health care settings.

“We have partnered with ABSTARR to develop this training course specifically designed for health accreditation professionals so that accreditation assessors can appropriately assess whether health education programs are equipping graduates with these necessary skills and attributes,” said Dr Crisp.

Collectively, the 15 accreditation authorities accredit and monitor more than 800 programs of study and 130 providers who prepare health practitioners for practice in their profession. The training will give accreditation assessors the skills and knowledge to understand what cultural safety means, how it's applied in health education and how it is incorporated into accreditation standards and practices.

The Forum has been working with ABSTARR Consulting for the past 18 months to develop the bespoke training that includes a mix of online modules and facilitated workshop discussions. All of the accreditation authorities have contributed to the program with input from accreditation contributors including Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples.

“Cultural safety is a core part of patient safety and a modern Australian health professional workforce,” said Professor Gregory Phillips, Chief Executive Officer of [ABSTARR Consulting](#). ABSTARR stands for Aboriginal Straight Talking About Responsibility and Respect, and so we are proud to support HPACF's incredible leadership. Thank you to all the educators who helped us bring this together.”

“One of the strengths of the program is the opportunity for collaboration across all of the health profession accreditation authorities to share learning and work together to improve accreditation processes,” said Dr Crisp

“This training is an important step in building cultural safety capability across the sector. We look forward to continuing our work with ABSTARR as we implement the training.”

For information about the program, please contact hpacconnect@abstarr.com

Dr Terry Crisp
Chair
Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum
16 May 2024

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.