



Aboriginal and Torres Strait
Islander Health Practice
Chinese Medicine
Chiropractic
Dental
Medical
Medical Radiation Practice
Nursing and Midwifery
Occupational Therapy
Optometry
Osteopathy
Pharmacy
Physiotherapy
Podiatry
Psychology

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency

Communique

9 November 2017

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Strategy Group

Development of a National Scheme Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health strategy

National Boards, AHPRA and Accreditation Authorities have committed to an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health strategy with the vision of:

Patient safety for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples is the norm. We recognise that:

- *patient safety includes the inextricably linked elements of clinical and cultural safety, and*
- *this link must be defined by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.*

To lead this important work, an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health strategy group (strategy group) has been developed. Strategy group members include: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health sector leaders and organisations, and representatives from Accreditation Authorities, National Board, and AHPRA.

The strategy group is co-Chaired by Associate Professor Gregory Phillips, CEO of ABSTARR Consulting and Dr Joanna Flynn AM, Chair of the Medical Board of Australia.

The group met for the third time on 9 November 2017 to continue the development of the strategy.

The goal of the meeting was to finalise key documents and report to the strategy group on initiatives and working groups that have been active since the last meeting.

Decisions

1. The draft terms of reference, statement of intent and vision and values were discussed and refined. It was agreed that this group will clear the final copies of these key documents out of session so that they can be distributed to key stakeholders for feedback.
2. Members were updated on the feedback provided to the Accreditation Systems Review by members of the strategy group working group.
3. It was agreed that a working group be developed to provide advice for jurisdictional representatives on the potential inclusion of cultural safety for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples within the National Law. Members acknowledged the significance of this piece of work and how few legislative drivers there are for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and the opportunity these amendments have to elevate and codify this work.
4. Members discussed cultural safety training learning principles and endorsed the discussion paper developed by the working group. Members discussed the context for the learning and agreed that there should be a nationally consistent model and framework but this should then have input from the local context.
5. The group discussed how they could use their networks to support greater representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples on National Boards.

Next steps

AHPRA will continue to coordinate and develop the strategy, with clear measurable objectives, in partnership with the strategy group; in particular with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health sector leaders.

The work before the next meeting includes:

- finalising statement of intent
- finalising vision and values
- finalising terms of reference
- advising on the potential inclusion of cultural safety for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples within the National Law
- investigating best approach for promoting the National Board vacancies through the networks of partner organisations
- engagement with National Boards, Board chairs and accreditation authorities
- procurement of cultural safety learning model, and
- a draft Reconciliation Action Plan for AHPRA

Next meeting

The next meeting will be held in February or March 2018.

Attendees

External to the National Scheme	
<i>Member organisations</i>	
1. Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association (AIDA)	Ms Siani Iglewski, Policy and research manager (proxy)
2. Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association (AIDA)	Mr Kris Rallah-Baker, Vice-President (proxy) (via teleconference)
3. Australian Psychological Society (Australian Indigenous Psychology Education Project)	Dr Sabine Hammond, Executive Manager, Science, Education and Membership
4. Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives	Ms Janine Mohamed, CEO (via teleconference)
5. National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Worker Association (NATSIHWA)	Ms Helen Culliver, Policy Officer (proxy)
6. The Lowitja Institute	Mr Romlie Mokak, CEO
7. Indigenous Allied Health Association (IAHA)	Mr Allan Groth, Chief Operating Officer (proxy)
<i>Member individuals</i>	
8. Professor Alex Brown, Director Aboriginal Health, South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute	
9. Associate Professor Gregory Phillips, CEO, ABSTARR Consulting	
10. Professor Noel Hayman, Clinical Director, Inala Aboriginal Health Centre of Excellence	
11. Professor Roianne West, Professor of First Peoples Health Griffith University	

Jurisdictional representatives (non-members, teleconferencing in regarding possible National Law amendments)

12. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workforce Section, Department of Health, Australian Government	Mr Brenton Rodgers
13. Manager, Workforce Regulation, Department of Health and Human Services, Victoria	Ms Anne-Louise Carlton
14. Principal Policy Advisor (Legislative Reform), Department of Health and Human Services, Victoria	Ms Kym Daly

Internal to the National Scheme

Member National Scheme representatives

15. Chair, AHPRA Agency Management Committee	Mr Michael Gorton AM, Chair
16. Co-Chair, Forum of NRAS Chairs	Dr Jo Flynn AM, Chair, Medical Board of Australia
17. Chair or nominee of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Board of Australia	Ms Renee Owen, Presiding member
18. Chair or nominee of the Occupational Therapy Board of Australia	Ms Julie Brayshaw, Chair
19. Chair or nominee of the Chiropractic Board of Australia	Dr Ailsa Wood, Practitioner member
20. Chair or nominee of the Pharmacy Board of Australia	Mr Michael Piu, Community member
21. Chair or nominee of the Psychology Board of Australia	Ms Marion Hale, Community member
22. Member, Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum	Ms Narelle Mills, CEO, Australian Dental Council Ms Theanne Walters, Deputy CEO, Australian Medical Council
23. Member, Community Reference Group (as nominated by the Community Reference Group),	Ms Jacqui Gibson

Member AHPRA staff

24. Chief Executive Officer	Mr Martin Fletcher
25. Executive Director, Strategy and Policy	Mr Chris Robertson
26. Executive Director, Regulatory Operations	Ms Kym Ayscough
27. Executive Officer, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice	Ms Jill Humphreys

AHPRA staff (regular observers)

28. National Director, Communications	Ms Anita Rivera
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29. National Director, Professional Services and Transformation	Mr Jit Patel
30. Executive Officer, NRAS	Mr Nick Lord

AHPRA Secretariat

31. Policy & Project Officer - Accreditation	Dr Vanessa Oelkers
32. Program Manager, National Scheme Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Strategy	Mr Gilbert Hennequin
33. Communications Coordinator	Ms Tess Humann

Apologies

Northern Territory Manager	Ms Eliza Collier
Australian Indigenous Doctor's Association	Mr Craig Dukes, CEO
Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association (AIDA)	Kali Hayward, President
Professor Ngiare Brown, Professor of Indigenous Health and Education, University of Wollongong	
Professor Pat Dudgeon, Vice Chair, Australian Indigenous Psychologists Association	
National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation	Ms Pat Turner, CEO
Indigenous Allied Health Australia	Ms Donna Murray, CEO
Australian Indigenous Psychologists Association	Ms Tania Dalton, Chairperson
Associate Professor Mark Wenitong, Director Medicine and Public Health, Apunipima Cape York Health Council	
National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers' Association	Mr Karl Briscoe, CEO