

Interprofessional Collaborative Practice Statement of Intent

Context

Achieving interprofessional collaborative practice is fundamental to deliver effective team-based, coordinated care for patients and healthcare consumers.

Interprofessional collaborative practice refers to healthcare practice where multiple health workers from different professional backgrounds work together, with patients, families, carers and communities to deliver the highest quality of care that is free of racism and other forms of discrimination.¹

The independently chaired Accreditation Committee is seeking to embed interprofessional collaborative practice (IPCP) in the 16 professions within the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the Scheme), by gaining a joint commitment from stakeholders across the health and education sectors to take action.

The intent of this statement is to express our joint commitment to achieve the shared goals and deliver on our vision.

Shared vision

Our vision is to embed interprofessional collaborative practice across the Australian health system, in education, training, clinical governance, research and practice.

This vision will:

- benefit individuals and all healthcare consumers by enhancing their health outcomes and experiences
- deliver healthcare to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples that is culturally safe and free of racism²
- provide improved access to more effective, efficient, person-centred care, free of discrimination
- improve collaboration within the health workforce.

1 This reflects the meaning in the Accreditation Committee's [glossary of accreditation terms](#).

2 The National Law was amended in 2022 to include a new objective about cultural safety for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and a new guiding principle about cultural safety and eliminating racism for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. See: Ahpra, the [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Strategy Group](#) and the [National Health Leadership Forum](#) (2022). [Joint statement: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and cultural safety at heart of National Law changes](#).

Shared goals

We, the signatories to this statement will work together to embed interprofessional collaborative practice across the continuum of healthcare settings.

We will do this by:

- building a shared understanding of, and commitment to, interprofessional collaborative practice within the Scheme and self-regulated/non-National Scheme professions
- building connections with patients and healthcare consumers
- co-designing collaborative practice models of care with healthcare consumers
- building interprofessional collaborative practice teams that create trust with diverse communities and individuals
- ensuring culturally safe interprofessional collaborative practice that is free of racism for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples in Australia's health system
- ensuring healthcare services are culturally and linguistically accessible
- improving healthcare services for people in rural and regional communities
- improving healthcare services for priority population groups
- strengthening the interdisciplinary education of health practitioners through high quality interprofessional care that meets the needs of patients and healthcare consumers
- recognising the interprofessional learning continuum from pre-registration learning, through to post-registration and continuing professional development
- identifying and addressing barriers to student and practitioner engagement in interprofessional collaborative practice
- reducing duplication, gaps and discontinuity experienced by individuals accessing health services
- establishing strategies and policies to facilitate and support the embedding of interprofessional collaborative practice, based on best available evidence
- facilitating research to explore innovative models of interprofessional care where limited evidence exists.

Shared values

Our work together to take action and further embed interprofessional collaborative practice will reflect these shared values:

Respect – we respect the value of each other's contributions, work and views

Commitment – we are committed to working together to achieve the vision and goals in this statement

Collaboration – we achieve more when we work jointly with others and together

Leadership – we consistently lead with integrity, fairness and clear and honest communication

Innovation – we introduce new ideas and ways of working to change existing approaches in education, training and practice.

Our commitment

We will use our leadership to take action and further embed interprofessional collaborative practice across the Australian health system, in education, training, clinical governance, research and practice.

Our action will have a focus on the quality and safety of person-centred care, that is free of discrimination and racism and is culturally safe for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. We commit to using our leadership to achieve our shared goals and deliver on our vision. In the future, this could involve developing a National Scheme strategy on interprofessional collaborative practice.

We are



