

#ahpraQandA Twitter chat, 30 July 2014

Thanks to all who joined the chat to discuss the proposed recently released draft [Guidelines for the regulatory management of registered health practitioners and students infected with blood-borne viruses](#).

An archive of the chat is provided below. We welcome members of the community to read the guidelines and provide a formal submission as part of the consultation process.

Date	User	Tweet
30/07/14 14:01	AHPRA	Welcome! Dr Jo Flynn is here to answer your questions on practitioners with blood borne viruses #ahpraqanda http://t.co/sLPiQnyBUr
30/07/14 14:01	AHPRA	We'll start with a couple of minutes for introductions. If you're joining let us know who you are & where you're from! #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:03	AHPRA	If you've never joined a Twitter chat before here's a guide: http://t.co/Nlh5vhmpr4 & to follow along: http://t.co/GMcn2MTiSJ #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:04	Cannulator	RT @AHPRA: If you've never joined a Twitter chat before here's a guide: http://t.co/Nlh5vhmpr4 & to follow along: http://t.co/GMcn2MTiSJ
30/07/14 14:07	AHPRA	@cannulator are you joining us for #ahpraqanda? would be interested to hear your perspective from an education point of view!
30/07/14 14:08	Cannulator	@AHPRA happy to. Having a foot in both ambulance and nursing creates unique perspective too.
30/07/14 14:11	australiandr	RT @AHPRA: Welcome! Dr Jo Flynn is here to answer your questions on practitioners with blood borne viruses #ahpraqanda http://t.co/sLPiQnyBUr
30/07/14 14:13	AHPRA	.@cannulator since there aren't many others (maybe just watching) we might ask you a couple of Qs directly! #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:14	Cannulator	@AHPRA sure.
30/07/14 14:15	AHPRA	.@cannulator do you think students are aware of the implications of having a blood borne virus as a future health practitioner? #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:17	Cannulator	@AHPRA My exposure to new students/ new grads suggest not openly #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:18	Cannulator	@AHPRA BBV is still something from our past or result of extracurricular behaviours (though we know better)
30/07/14 14:19	OsteoAust	AHPRA has declined to publish guidelines for the needling activities many clinicians lawfully do. Isn't that the place to start? #ahpraqanda

Date	User	Tweet
30/07/14 14:19	CHFofAustralia	How will these guidelines help @AHPRA ensure health practitioners' compliance with CDNA guidelines and keep consumers safe? #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:19	decompensating	.@AHPRA @Cannulator not fully I'd prefer to independently manage my practice safely in those circumstances though (and avoid disclosure).
30/07/14 14:19	Cannulator	@AHPRA However in high risk area eg ambulance safety awareness is very high. So maybe it is environment dependent
30/07/14 14:20	AHPRA	.@Cannulator yes stigma can be very challenging. New guidelines don't require disclosure but do require knowledge of CDNA req's #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:21	AHPRA	.@OsteoAust risk in blood-borne viruses is much higher than in needling - what are your concerns re needling? ^Jo #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:22	Cannulator	@AHPRA New guidelines and CDNA must be a second nature body of knowledge. Advertising amongst professions as important as content.
30/07/14 14:22	AHPRA	.@CHFofAustralia an excellent Q for the community particularly for consumers' perspective/input ^Jo #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:22	AHPRA	.@CHFofAustralia we think that ensuring compliance starts with education knowledge & awareness. What do you think? ^Jo #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:24	AHPRA	@decompensating @Cannulator guidelines allow individual prac's to self-manage eg seek specific adv from ID expert ^jo #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:24	Paleo_Osteo	@AHPRA @OsteoAust "guidelines" are the enemy of an astute clinical thought process
30/07/14 14:25	OsteoAust	@AHPRA needling is an exposure prone activity and the risk of transmission is apparent.
30/07/14 14:25	AHPRA	.@Cannulator yes how do you think we get the message out? Knowledge and awareness are key #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:26	Cannulator	@AHPRA Just reading CDNA and draft AHPRA guidelines- pretty overwhelming. It was by chance I stumbled across today's chat.
30/07/14 14:27	AHPRA	PS don't forget to use the hashtag for those who are watching or will come back later! #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:27	AHPRA	.@OsteoAust CDNA defines exposure prone procedures currently doesn't include needling #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:28	AHPRA	.@Cannulator v good feedback. How would you like to hear from us in the future? Community feedback vital #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:28	Cannulator	@AHPRA I was getting yearly BBV testing on my own initiative trying to convince GPs to test was at times a challenge. Now I just demand!
30/07/14 14:30	Cannulator	@AHPRA Have become a twitter fiend of late so good idea email definitely maybe workplaces or professional bodies too?
30/07/14 14:30	OsteoAust	@AHPRA Then the CDNA guidelines may not reflect current allied health practice. (Not everything happens in a hospital.)

Date	User	Tweet
30/07/14 14:30	AHPRA	.@Cannulator CDNA all prac's to know status tested after exposure & testing annually if conducting exposure prone procedures #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:30	decompensating	@AHPRA @Cannulator more reading required on my behalf privacy crucial issue for me.
30/07/14 14:31	esckerdo	RT @AHPRA: .@CHFofAustralia we think that ensuring compliance starts with education knowledge & awareness. What do you think? ^Jo #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:31	esckerdo	RT @CHFofAustralia: How will these guidelines help @AHPRA ensure health practitioners' compliance with CDNA guidelines and keep safe?
30/07/14 14:32	jeffayton	RT @AHPRA: Welcome! Dr Jo Flynn is here to answer your questions on practitioners with blood borne viruses #ahpraqanda http://t.co/sLPiQnyBUR
30/07/14 14:32	MelissaCadzow	RT @CHFofAustralia: How will these guidelines help @AHPRA ensure health practitioners' compliance with CDNA guidelines and keep consumers safe?
30/07/14 14:32	Cannulator	@AHPRA Perhaps cost incentives for pracs to access annual testing eg bulk billing or path and GP visits- increased compliance
30/07/14 14:32	AHPRA	.@OsteoAust what sort of needling are you talking about? Insertion of needle into skin and s/c tissue is not an EPP #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:34	CHFofAustralia	.@AHPRA education v. important but good guidelines need robust enforcement. Have Nat'l Boards had issues w/ CDNA compliance? #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:34	OsteoAust	@AHPRA Do you think the public would be surprised to learn that?
30/07/14 14:35	AHPRA	@Cannulator all good points! Some employers offer free immunization - does anyone know if employers offer free testing? #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:37	Cannulator	@AHPRA post high risk exposure is common at least from nursing and ambulance.
30/07/14 14:37	AHPRA	.@CHFofAustralia not that we are aware of but that is definitely one of the challenges of implementing this policy! #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:37	AHPRA	.@CHFofAustralia what do you think consumers' expect for enforcement and testing? #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:39	AHPRA	@decompensating the policy supports need for respect & right to privacy providing CDNA guidelines followed & no public risk #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:40	decompensating	RT @AHPRA: @decompensating the policy supports need for respect & right to privacy providing CDNA guidelines followed & no public risk #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:40	AHPRA	.@decompensating following CDNA guidelines ensures the public are protected so no need for disclosure #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:41	AHPRA	@OsteoAust perhaps that's a question best answered by @CHFofAustralia: what does the public see as an exposure prone procedure? #ahpraqanda

Date	User	Tweet
30/07/14 14:45	AHPRA	@Cannulator great to see people understanding their obligations a stressful time for practitioner involved #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:45	Cannulator	@AHPRA @OsteoAust @CHFofAustralia Just ask my better half and she says yes to HCP with BBV but not pt!
30/07/14 14:47	Cannulator	@AHPRA we have access to 24hr counselling with OH Drs post any exposure for initial advisement- helps immensely. Nursing- ED is first POC
30/07/14 14:48	AHPRA	@Cannulator do you mean disclosure of status? Or about procedural work? #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:48	Cannulator	@AHPRA Public perception of EPP
30/07/14 14:49	AHPRA	In the last 10 minutes does anyone think that the National Boards should be taking a tougher stance on practitioners w a BBV? #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:51	Cannulator	@AHPRA Only if you provide the right infrastructure to meet obligations however plain negligent increasing pt exposure risk need policing.
30/07/14 14:53	ptopinion	.@AHPRA #ahpraqanda Sounds like there are good measures in place
30/07/14 14:54	sequestrate	@AHPRA Does AHPRA have the power to ask practitioners who do EPPs if they have a BBV? #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:55	Cannulator	@AHPRA Protection the public is premise of AHPRA/ boards- should never require breaching of confidentiality
30/07/14 14:57	sequestrate	@AHPRA Does AHPRA have the power to ask practitioners who do EPPs if they have a BBV? #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:57	AHPRA	@sequestrate we could but Q for consultation is whether should. We are considering whether 2 ask to declare compliance w CDNA #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:58	AHPRA	.@Cannulator do you mean there's never grounds to breach confidentiality? #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 14:59	Cannulator	@AHPRA @sequestrate Why not. We need to be serious about protecting public. With viral fears always in public eye- might instil confidence
30/07/14 15:00	sequestrate	@AHPRA A passive system relying on clinicians to report a HCW not complying with the CDNA guidelines may not work.
30/07/14 15:00	AHPRA	@Cannulator yes maintaining public confidence in health professions is important role of National Boards #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 15:00	Cannulator	@AHPRA In most cases an in camera approach is best unless matter becomes criminal for example- pts no question.
30/07/14 15:00	sequestrate	@AHPRA The UK have a register of infected HCWs who do EPPs and regularly check HIV viral loads. Should we have this in Aus? #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 15:01	AHPRA	.@sequestrate at present CDNA guidelines say infected HCWs can't do exposure prone procedures #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 15:02	sequestrate	@AHPRA A passive system relying on clinicians to report a HCW not complying with the CDNA guidelines may not work. #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 15:02	Catherineturn27	@AHPRA What would tougher measures look like? #ahpraqanda

Date	User	Tweet
30/07/14 15:03	Cannulator	@sequestrate @AHPRA It would be a nice aim though.
30/07/14 15:03	AHPRA	That's time! Thanks for joining @cannulator @OsteoAust @CHFofAustralia @decompensating @sequestrate archive will be posted soon #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 15:04	sequestrate	@AHPRA CDNA guidelines say HCW with hep B infection can do EPPs if DNA undetectable #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 15:04	AHPRA	@Catherineturn27 e.g. requiring disclosure to Board and/or mandatory testing #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 15:06	AHPRA	.@sequestrate the clinical advice changes over time as evidence develops which is why Boards propose CDNA as experts #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 15:07	AHPRA	@sequestrate but yes CDNA allows EPPs for Hep B after clearing of virus. #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 15:07	Catherineturn27	@AHPRA Would seem unnecessary unless as you have said there is a risk to the public. Think Non compliance would be common #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 15:08	AHPRA	Thanks all for joining & Jo as expert. If you would like to read more or provide formal submission http://t.co/hUIHgXK6VJ #ahpraqanda
30/07/14 15:09	AHPRA	@Catherineturn27 thanks for feedback certainly an issue to consider #ahpraqanda