



Aboriginal and Torres Strait  
Islander health practice  
Chinese medicine  
Chiropractic  
Dental  
Medical  
Medical radiation practice  
Nursing and Midwifery  
Occupational therapy  
Optometry  
Osteopathy  
Paramedicine  
Pharmacy  
Physiotherapy  
Podiatry  
Psychology

## Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency

Q13.  
**Guidelines for mandatory notifications: public consultation**

National Boards and the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) are seeking feedback about the revised *Guidelines for mandatory notifications*.

**Please ensure you have read the [public consultation papers](#) before providing feedback as the questions are specific to the revised guidelines.**

Q23.  
**Privacy**

Your response will be anonymous unless you choose to provide your name and/or the name of your organisation.

**Privacy notice**

This consultation is being conducted by AHPRA and is hosted on a third-party website, provided by Qualtrics. The information collected will be used by AHPRA to evaluate the revised guidelines. The information will be handled in accordance with the privacy policies of AHPRA accessible [here](#) and Qualtrics [here](#).

*Contact.*  
**Contact details**

We may contact you about your response.

Please write your name and contact details.

**(Skip if you wish to be anonymous)**

Q25.

## Publication of responses

National Boards and AHPRA publish responses at their discretion. We generally publish responses on our websites to encourage discussion and inform the community and stakeholders.

We will not publish responses that contain offensive or defamatory comments or which are outside the scope of the consultation. Before publication, we may remove personally-identifying information, including contact details.

We can accept responses made in confidence. These responses will not be published. Responses may be confidential because they include personal experiences or other sensitive information. Any request for access to a confidential response will be determined in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 1982 (Cth), which has provisions to protect personal information and information given in confidence.

You must let us know if you do **not** want us to publish your responses.

**Published responses will include the names (if provided) of the individuals and/or the organisations that made the response.**

## Q24. Publication of responses

Please select the box below if you do **not** want your response to be published.

Please do **not** publish my response

## Q15. About your response

Q23. Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

Yes

No

Q24. Which of the following best describes your organisation?

*This question was not displayed to the respondent.*

Q22. Please write the name of your organisation.

*This question was not displayed to the respondent.*

Q17.

Which of the following best describes you?

- I am a health practitioner
- I am a member of the community
- I am an employer (of health practitioners)
- I am a student
- Other

Q19.

Which of the following health profession/s are you registered in, in Australia?

You may select more than one answer

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

Q35.

## Before you answer questions about the guidelines

Please ensure you have read the [public consultation papers](#) before providing feedback as the questions are specific to the revised guidelines for mandatory notifications.

The following questions will help us to gather feedback about the revised guidelines.

Q9.

How easy is it to find specific information in the revised guidelines?

The information is much easier to find, as it details if you are a treating practitioner, employer etc

Q10.

How relevant is the content of the revised guidelines?

The information is more relevant as impairment is more clearly defined for each type of notifier. Flow charts and examples will make making a notification easier as it will guide the process to or not to.

Q12.

Please describe any content that needs to be changed or deleted in the revised guidelines.

Perhaps adding that notifications are made to the OHO in Queensland. This may be helpful for notifiers.

Q14.

Should some of the content be moved out of the revised guidelines to be published on the website instead?

Yes

No

Q40.

If yes, please describe what should be moved and your reasons why.

Q22.

How helpful is the structure of the revised guidelines?

The structure is helpful as a notifier could attend to only the information that they require and act upon this without other confounding information.

Q24. Do the revised guidelines clearly explain when a mandatory notification is required and when it is not?

Yes

No

Q31. Please explain your answer.

Examples provide detailed information, there is adequate information in the form of flow charts on mandatory or voluntary notifications for the type of notifier eg. employer etc.

Q32. Are the flow charts and diagrams helpful?

- Yes
- No

Q15.

Please explain your answer.

It is any easy to use reference that can guide notifiers on how to act and when to act.

Q33. Are the risk factor consideration charts helpful?

- Yes
- No

Q34.

Please explain your answer.

They are helpful, it would be good to have further indicators that would be concerning for the notifier along the continuum.

Q29.

Are the examples in the revised guidelines helpful?

- Yes
- No

Q36.

Please explain your answer.

The guideline on mental health and impairment will be extremely useful as there are many practitioners who may have a well managed mental health impairment that has been stable for a vast number of years which is not placing the public at harm. Taking sick leave to manage a condition should not warrant a mandatory notification as the Practitioner has take steps to manage their own condition and thus protecting the public.

Q16. Should there be separate guidelines for mandatory notifications about students or should the information be included in guidelines about practitioners and students (but as a separate section)?

- Separate **guidelines** about students
- Separate **section** about students

Q39.

Please explain your answer.

A separate section as they are not registered health practitioners.

Q30.

**The revised guidelines explain that it is not an offence to fail to make a mandatory notification when required, but a National Board may take disciplinary action in this situation.**

Is this made clear in the revised guidelines?

- Yes
- No

Q37.

Please explain your answer.

It could be explained in a Question and Answer style after each section flow chart. This would be more easier to identify.

Q27.

Is there anything that needs to be added to the revised guidelines?

The revised guidelines will provide further clarity to notifications in instances where the public are at risk of harm from a practitioner.

Q17. It is proposed that the guidelines will be reviewed every five years, or earlier if required.

Is this reasonable?

- Yes
- No

Q38.

Please explain your answer.

Health is an ever evolving dynamic service to the public and to protect the public from possible harm, such revisions is one method that can be utilised to perform this.

Q24.

Please describe anything else the National Boards should consider in the review of the guidelines.

The definition of being charged and no conviction recorded when renewing an annual license and having these definitions easier to find and utilise on the web pages.

Q31.

Please add any other comments or suggestions for the revised guidelines.

Q27.

**Thank you!**

**Thank you for participating in the consultation.**

Your answers will be used by the National Boards and AHPRA to improve the *Guidelines for mandatory notifications*.