

# Communiqué

# June 2025 meeting of the Accreditation Committee

The Ahpra Board established the Accreditation Committee (the committee) consistent with Ministerial Council Policy Direction 2020-1 to provide independent and expert advice on accreditation reform and other National Scheme accreditation matters to National Scheme entities (National Boards, Accreditation Authorities and Ahpra). Other external entities performing accreditation roles as part of the National Scheme, such as specialist colleges and postgraduate medical councils should have regard for the committee's advice, where relevant.

The committee issues a communiqué after each meeting to keep stakeholders informed about its work.

The committee held its sixteenth meeting via hybrid meeting model on 18 June 2025. Members who were able to meet in person convened in Sydney. Members noted Dr Catherine McDougall has been appointed as an additional jurisdictional member, and the Ahpra Board is in the process of approving an additional community member. Members look forward to those two representatives joining at the next meeting.

Members also noted Dr Heather Buchan has resigned from the committee as the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care nominee. Members thanked her for her contribution to the committee.

Members welcomed Mr Justin Untersteiner, Ahpra's new CEO, to his first meeting. Mr Untersteiner provided a brief update on his reflections since commencing his role. He emphasised the importance of listening to stakeholders, reflecting on progress, and preparing for future reforms.

The key areas considered by the committee during the meeting are reflected in its work plan.

#### **Update from the Chair**

The Chair advised of a number of meetings with stakeholders he attended since March. The Chair met with independent reviewer, Ms Sue Dawson, to discuss her second consultation paper. The Chair also presented at Ahpra's Forum of NRAS Chairs Combined Meeting in May to provide an update on the committee's work and alignment with the strategic direction of the Forum of NRAS Chairs.

The Deputy Chair presented the committee's work to the Australian Council of Deans of Health Sciences and noted a high level of interest in the committee's work on reducing duplication.

# Cultural safety and eliminating racism considerations

Members emphasised the importance of eliminating racism in the current political and social environment.

#### Government workforce and review initiatives

Members noted an update on the Kruk and Dawson reviews, the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing's Primary Care and workforce reviews taskforce and Ahpra's next National Scheme strategy.

# **Interprofessional Collaborative Practice (IPCP)**

Members noted an update on the latest work and the proposals for implementation of the IPCP Statement of Intent.

Reducing duplication in accreditation processes across the National Scheme

Members noted the outcomes of the first working group meeting. Members also discussed and agreed to review project plan timeframes to prioritise early actions, and endorsed a series of targeted focus groups with key stakeholders in July and August 2025.

# Professional capabilities: Common capabilities development

Members agreed to expand the membership of the working group to improve representation across relevant stakeholders. Members also discussed and agreed to review project plan timeframes to prioritise early actions, including some focus groups with key stakeholders.

#### **Accreditation agreement KPIs**

Members provided feedback on a set of standard survey questions to assess the relationship between accreditation authorities and education providers to address KPIs.

# 2025 annual accreditation meeting

Members noted the 2025 annual accreditation meeting will be held in September in Melbourne, and discussed a broad range of themes to be covered at the meeting.

#### Other business

There was no other business raised.

# **Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held via videoconference in September 2025.

#### **More information**

Questions about the committee's work may be directed to the secretariat via email to: ahpra.secretariat@ahpra.gov.au.

#### **Members**

Professor Andrew Wilson AO Independent Chair

Professor Maree O'Keefe Accreditation/education expert

Associate Professor Carmen Parter Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander member

TBC Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander member

Adjunct Professor Veronica Casey AM National Boards representative

Dr Terry Crisp Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum

(HPACF) nominee

Mr Anton Barnett-Harris Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum

(HPACF) nominee

Dr Hamza Vayani Ahpra's Community Advisory Council nominee

TBC Community representative

TBC Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care

nominee

Professor Kimberley Norris National Boards representative

Dr Mary Russell Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA)

nominee

Mr Jeffrey Moffet Ahpra Board member
Professor Trish Davidson AM Ahpra Board member

Mr Takudzwa Gandanhamo Australian Private Hospitals Association (Private healthcare

employer) nominee

Professor Esther May

Ms Valerie Ramsperger

Dr Catherine McDougall

Universities Australia nominee

Jurisdictional representative