



COAG Health Council

Meeting as the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council

Communiqué
10 August 2017

Health Ministers announce appointments to National Boards regulating health professions in Australia

The Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council (the Ministerial Council) is very pleased to announce appointments to three National Boards regulating the professions of:

- medical radiation practice - community member vacancy
- nursing and midwifery - practitioner member vacancy
- pharmacy - community member vacancy.

The appointments are made to fill vacancies arising on these National Boards due to the scheduled expiry of terms of appointed members.

The details of the statutory appointments are set out in the attachment to this communiqué.

Health Ministers were very pleased with the response to the advertised vacancies. A total of 81 women and men applied for the vacancies, with 54 people expressing interest in being appointed as a community member on one or both of the National Boards. Twenty-seven (27) registered practitioners applied for the practitioner member from Queensland vacancy on the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (the NMBA). While the majority of applicants were either registered nurses or registered nurse/midwives, applications were also received from nurse practitioners, a registered midwife and an enrolled nurse.

Ministers also noted the diverse skills, experience and attributes of applicants, who were from metropolitan, regional and rural areas. To be eligible to be appointed to the NMBA practitioner member vacancy, registrants had to be from Queensland. The two community members are from rural/regional areas of Victoria.

Health Ministers thanked everyone who took the time to apply for these vacancies when they were publicly advertised in October 2016. Vacancies on the National Boards arise from time to time, and individuals who were not successful in this round are encouraged to express their interest in the future. All vacancies are publicly advertised, including on the AHPRA website.

The Ministerial Council's appointments are made under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory and are consistent with the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council (AHMAC)-endorsed *National Board Member Succession Planning Principles*.

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Appointments made to National Boards

Appointments are made to National Boards by resolution of the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council on 21 July 2017, under the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law*, as in force in each state and territory, for terms as indicated below.

Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia

- **Dr Susan (Sue) Gould** – appointed as a community member for a first term, for a period of 3 years from 30 July 2017 (date of acceptance of appointment).

Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia

- **Professor Veronica Casey** – reappointed as a practitioner member from Queensland for a second term, for a period of 3 years from 3 August 2017 (date of acceptance of appointment).

Pharmacy Board of Australia

- **Dr Rod Wellard** – reappointed as a community member for a third term, for a period of 3 years from 1 August 2017 (date of acceptance of appointment).

All other current appointments to these National Boards are listed on each of the Boards' websites and can be accessed via www.ahpra.gov.au
