



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

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency

Agency Management Committee Communiqué

August 2017

The 89th meeting of the [Agency Management Committee](#) (the Committee) was held on Tuesday 15 August 2017 in via teleconference.

This Communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations from the Committee's meeting.

Chair and members' report

Members noted the update provided by Mr Gorton, including:

- Mr Gorton attended the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander working group which is developing a strategy for indigenous health issues from the Scheme.
- Mr Gorton attended the second Advertising Forum which was very positive. Mr Gorton also advised that he will be speaking at an upcoming public forum on advertising.
- Mr Gorton attended the Forum of NRAS Chairs meeting which was held on 10 and 11 August 2017.

Members noted the update provided by Mr Bluntish regarding the Forum of Chairs meeting, including:

- Mr Peter Carver provided an update on the Accreditation Systems Review. A further report for consultation is expected to be available on 4 September 2014 and the Forum has organised an extraordinary meeting to discuss.
- Ms Kym Peake, Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services in Victoria provided an update and perspective on behalf of the Australian Health Ministers Advisory Committee (AHMAC). Ms Peake provided an overview of strategic directions, discussed the AHMAC review into their Committee structures and the status of legislative changes. The Forum provided feedback on the indigenous health strategy and the outcomes of the Notifications Think Tank.
- Susan Bigger National AHPRA Engagement Advisor provided a presentation on practitioner and notifier experience.
- Anne-Louise Carlton, Manager Health Workforce Regulation, Department of Health and Human Services Victoria attended the meeting and provided an overview of the tranches of legislative amendments.
- Ms Kym Ayscough provided an update on the use of counseling as one of the tools for managing notifications.
- An updated was provided regarding work undertaken by the risk based research unit on notifications with the Pharmacy Board of Australia.
- Mr Gorton presented the charter of the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee and invited feedback from the Forum of NRAS Chairs.

Members noted the update provided by Mr Gorton, including that the Committee:

- Noted the 13.9% overall increase in notifications in 16/17 as part of reviewing reports on regulatory operations performance.
- Discussed the value of the notification case review processes in Victoria and plans for wider roll out (along with clinical advisors).
- Discussed developments with the new on line forms for registration including identity verification processes.
- Considered quality reviews on aged investigations, drug screening and on hold matters.
- Noted the quality review workplan for 2017/18.

- Discussed work on new ways of presenting data to increase insights, improve analysis and reduce size of reports.

Business items

- Members approved the Terms of Reference for the Oversight Group for the Review of Equity and Cost Allocation.
- Members endorsed participation in a joint AHPRA/National Board proposal to seek recognition as a WHO Collaborating Centre.
- Members highlighted that this proposal should not distract from our performance on core regulatory functions or inappropriately influence our regulatory approach to international applicants.
- Amendments to the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law:
 - Members noted the upcoming discussion regarding the scope of proposed amendments for a second tranche of amendments of the National Law.
 - Members endorsed the two new amendments proposed by AHPRA in the National Law, and;
 - Members noted that correspondence will be provided to the Legislation Committee advising of the above.
- Members noted the report of the outcomes of the Notifications think tank.
- Members noted that an Action Plan with clear timeframes for delivery will be developed.
- Members highlighted the importance of reporting on measures and targets in areas such as improved practitioner and notifier experience, as well as Board and committee satisfaction.
- Members noted the presentation and the status of current work on a proposed approach to establishing this committee.
- Members discussed the importance of risk assessment, clarity that the wider workforce reform agenda remains a responsibility of governments through AHMAC, and; opportunities to promote learning on wider systemic issues.
- Unaudited Financial Snapshot 2016-17:
 - Members noted the consolidated position at 30 June 2017
 - Members noted the unaudited financial position for AHPRA at 30 June 2017
 - Members noted the unaudited financial position for National Boards at 30 June 2017

The Chair reminded members that the audited statements will be circulated as an out of session paper for approval, once they have been considered by the Finance, Audit and Risk Management Committee.

Next meeting of the Agency Management Committee:

19 September 2017, 9:00am-2:00pm at AHPRA National Office, Room 7.04, 111 Bourke St, Melbourne.