

14 May 2018

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency  
GPO Box 9958  
MELBOURNE, VIC 3001

E-mail: [accreditationreview@ahpra.gov.au](mailto:accreditationreview@ahpra.gov.au)

Dear Madam, Dear Sir,

**RE: Review of accreditation arrangements - assignment of accreditation functions**

Thank you for the recent communication of 17 April regarding the next steps in the Review of Accreditation Systems within the National registration and Accreditation Scheme for the health professions.

RACS was asked to comment on the draft report prepared for the Australian Health Ministers Advisory Council, following which I wrote to Minister Hunt on 13 October 2017, supporting strongly the place of the Australian Medical Council.

RACS has had opportunity to review the 42-page document and specifically the seven questions on page 39. Responses are provided in the question order.

1. RACS has found the AMC to be collegiate yet rigorous in our most recent accreditation during 2017. We believe that AMC has discharged its responsibilities comprehensively as our accreditation body.
2. RACS felt the AMC has performed well against all eight domains referred to in this question.
3. From RACS' perspective, as the leading voice for surgery in Australia and New Zealand, the accreditation process is comprehensive and efficient. We are unable to comment on accreditation of other health professional organisations.
4. RACS believes that the objectives and guiding principles of the National Law have been followed by the AMC, as the external organisation engaged by MBA.
5. RACS does not see any reason to change the current arrangements.
6. RACS does not believe that a single organisation could perform appropriate accreditation of the multiple health professions to the current excellent standard displayed by the AMC. Such a single organisation would likely divide itself into departments which would then accredit health professions, thus representing another layer of bureaucracy.
7. RACS strongly recommends that the AMC continue to be the accreditation body for medical schools, post-graduate medical colleges and the intern/prevocational years.



Please contact the undersigned should further information be required. RACS as a stakeholder wishes to be involved in the ongoing consultations.



**Mr John Batten**  
President