



Mandatory notifications: What you need to know

Introducing our resources

December 2019

The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra) and National Boards new 'Mandatory notifications: what you need to know' resources will be released on 3 December 2020. The resources will be accompanied by a media release, social media and stakeholder promotion.

We have involved professional groups, treating practitioners, indemnity insurers, health departments, registered students and our National Scheme¹ advisory groups to help us develop this information; their help will also be sought to support its promotion through their channels.

We will be releasing the first of many resources to support practitioner health and wellbeing in the context of changes to mandatory notification requirements.

What are the resources trying to achieve?

The information published aims to:

- encourage registered health practitioners to seek treatment when they need to without fear of a mandatory notification
- inform treating health practitioners, such as doctors, nurses and psychologists, that they should make a mandatory notification only where there is serious risk to patients and the public, and
- provide general information on what the mandatory notification changes mean for everyone including treating registered health practitioners, non-treating registered health practitioners, employers of registered health practitioners and education providers.

Through use of the information and resources, our aim is help everyone be better informed and for registered health practitioners to feel supported to look after their own physical and mental health and/or provide support to others.

Resource kit

The resource kit offers information and resources, via the Ahpra and National Board websites, which helps build understanding of mandatory notifications.

For those who want to learn more about mandatory notifications there is:

- explanatory information on how to use the kit and about mandatory notifications
- a media release launching the resources, along with sample editorial content
- mandatory notifications slide pack and explainer to help share information about the upcoming changes to mandatory notification requirements and help support an informed conversation, and
- digital assets, including:
 - downloadable slide template
 - our first two videos [Mandatory notifications - a video for treating health practitioners](#) and [Mandatory notifications - an overview](#), and
 - social media kit to include downloadable graphics and suggested posts.

This information is the first of several updates to the resource kit and website content between now and when the revised *Guidelines on mandatory notifications* come into effect in early 2020, as a result of amendments to the National Law.

¹ National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme).

These changes were made to ensure health practitioners have confidence to seek treatment for health issues, while protecting the public from harm and will apply in all states and territories, except Western Australia, as decided by ministers. Practitioners treating other practitioners in WA are exempt from the mandatory requirements.

Keep an eye out for additional resources which will include further videos, case studies, FAQ and signposting for registered health practitioners who would benefit from additional support.

Four things you can do now to start engaging with the information and resource kit

1. Check out the 'Mandatory notifications: what you need to know' section of the Ahpra website. View and download what's already available here. Go to www.ahpra.gov.au/mandatorynotifications.
2. Add the date this information is launching (3 December 2019) and note that mandatory notifications changes come into effect in early 2020, on your communication and operational calendar.
3. Help spread the word. Share the information within your organisation and through your communications activities and channels.
4. Contact communications@ahpra.gov.au and tell us what you are planning or give us your suggestions for any opportunities available where we can partner to share this information together.