Communique



January 2021 Medical Radiation Practice Accreditation Committee meeting

The Medical Radiation Practice Accreditation Committee (the Committee) undertakes accreditation functions for medical radiation practice in the national scheme regulating health practitioners.

The communiqué provides information about the Committee's recent activities. The Committee publishes this communiqué on the Committee's <u>accreditation webpages</u>. Please forward it to your colleagues and employees who may be interested.

Committee's ongoing response to COVID-19

The Committee and Ahpra continue to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and its potential impacts on accredited and approved programs, including the downstream effects on current students. The Committee is finalising planning of its accreditation activities for 2021, and more details will be posted on the 'News and updates' accreditation webpage when they are available.

Accreditation Committee meeting

The 55th meeting of the Committee was held on 28 January 2021 via videoconference, it was the Committee's first meeting for 2021. Some activities that were discussed at the Committee's January 2021 meeting are outlined below.

Accreditation standards for medical radiation practice -2019 accreditation standards

As noted in the October 2020 communiqué, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Committee postponed the commencement of any accreditation assessments against the 2019 accreditation standards until 2021.

From 2021 assessments will be adopted under a 'COVID-responsive' approach, with a focus on the core regulatory purpose of confirming each program continues to provide students with learning that ensures they achieve the professional capabilities for safe and competent practice in Australia prior to graduation.

At the January 2021 meeting the Committee noted the first application for accreditation of a medical radiation practice program against the 2019 accreditation standards is due to be submitted in February 2021.

Proposed updates to the 2019 accreditation standards

In November and December 2020, the Committee sought feedback from key stakeholders, including education providers, on proposed updates to the accreditation standards relating to the National Scheme's definition of cultural safety, and information relevant to the quality use of medicines.

The Committee considered the feedback at the January 2021 meeting, and has now presented the proposed updates to the Board for approval. Subject to Board approval, the Committee will publish the updated approved 2019 accreditation standards on the Committee's webpages, and will disseminate them to all relevant education providers.

The updates do not apply to accreditation assessments currently underway, but once approved, accreditation assessments will be assessed against the updated standards.

Accreditation fees for medical radiation practice

Following discussions with the Board, the Committee is considering its approach to accreditation fees for medical radiation practice programs of study in 2021 and beyond.

The Committee intends to invite feedback from education providers in March 2021 on the proposed schedule of fees for 2021-2024, following discussion with the Board.

Medical Radiation Practice Accreditation Committee
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Stakeholder engagement

The Program Accreditation Team, on behalf of the Committee, continues to engage with education providers via the Committee's <u>accreditation webpages</u>; through correspondence via email and phone contact, and communiques.

Contact information

For any queries related to medical radiation practice accreditation, please contact the Medical Radiation Practice Accreditation Committee via the Program Accreditation Team at program.accreditation@ahpra.gov.au.

For more information on medical radiation practice accreditation please visit the Committee's <u>accreditation</u> webpages.

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