Communique



July 2021 Medical Radiation Practice Accreditation Committee meeting

The Medical Radiation Practice Accreditation Committee (the Committee) publishes this communiqué on the Committee's <u>accreditation webpages</u>. Please forward it to your colleagues who may be interested.

Committee's response to COVID-19

The Committee and Ahpra continue to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and its potential impacts on accredited and approved programs. Further statements on, or information outlining, its plans for its accreditation activities will be published on the 'News and updates' accreditation webpage.

Committee meeting

The 57th meeting of the Committee was held on 27 July 2021 via Zoom. The Committee anticipates holding another meeting in 2021.

Some activities that were discussed at the Committee's July 2021 meeting, as well as some other activities, are outlined more thoroughly below.

Monitoring approved programs of study

Under section 50 of the National Law, the Committee has a statutory responsibility to monitor approved programs of study and the education providers offering them.

At the July 2021 meeting, the Committee considered monitoring responses from one education provider with two programs of study. The outcomes of their decisions will be provided to the education provider and the Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia (National Board).

2021 Routine annual monitoring

The 2021 Routine annual monitoring reports from education providers are due in mid-late 2021. As well as standard collection of key data, the routine annual monitoring reports will also seek information from education providers on the downstream impacts of COVID-19 in 2021 and beyond.

The Committee will consider the routine annual monitoring responses at their meeting in late 2021. The outcomes of the routine annual monitoring responses will be provided to the education providers and the National Board after the meeting.

Accreditation fees for medical radiation practice

As previously outlined, in March 2021 the Committee sought feedback from education providers on a proposed approach to accreditation fees for the period 2021-2024. The feedback was considered by the Committee and the accreditation fees proposal was submitted to the National Board in May 2021.

The National Board considered and approved the Committee's accreditation fees proposal in May 2021.

The accreditation fees for medical radiation practice are now published on the Committee's webpages.

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, phone contact and videoconference meetings, and communiques.

Meeting with Medical Radiations Australia

At the July 2021 meeting, the Committee met with members from Medical Radiations Australia (MRA), to discuss key issues in medical radiation practice accreditation, including supervision arrangements for medical radiation practice students across Australia; current legislative requirements relevant to medical radiation practice students across different jurisdictions; and any potential implications on accreditation standards and/or accreditation of programs of study as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Committee reiterated the importance of the relationship between education providers and their work integrated learning (clinical) supervisors, and encouraged education providers to ensure all work integrated learning supervisors understood their obligations as supervisors, and were aware of the medical radiation practice accreditation standards and the National Board's professional capabilities for medical radiation practice.

The Committee further clarified that the accreditation standards do not codify a set number of hours for students to complete work integrated learning placements across the duration of the program - the standards focus on outcomes and ensuring graduates have the necessary knowledge, skills and professional attributes to ensure they are safe and competent for practice, and therefore eligible for registration. The Committee also does not mandate anywhere that work integrated learning supervision be at a ratio of 1:1 for students in any division, across any year of delivery of a program of study.

Contact information

For any queries related to medical radiation practice accreditation, please contact the Medical Radiation Practice Accreditation Committee via the <u>Program Accreditation Team</u>.

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

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