



Professions Reference Group communiqué

The Professions Reference Group (PRG) met via video conference on Wednesday 9 March 2022. The meeting was chaired by Nello Marino from the Australian Podiatry Association.

The PRG discussed the following:

- Health ministers, as part of a collaborative nationwide consultation, are seeking feedback from the public on the use of the title surgeon by medical practitioners under the Health Practitioners Regulation National Law. Responses and submissions will be used by Health Ministers to determine the most effective option/s to address the issues raised in the Consultation RIS – submissions will be accepted until April 2022.
- On 4 March 2022, the Independent Reviewer, Andrew Brown, commenced public consultation as part of the Independent review of the regulation of health practitioners in cosmetic surgery. This includes the publication of a consultation paper and an online consumer survey and consultation will remain open for six weeks, until 14 April.
- Ahpra have recently undertaken engagement with professional associations and other professional bodies to assist in understanding the experience of professions and health service of complaints.
- Informal advice that Health Ministers have approved a draft Bill of amendments to the National Law for introduction to the Queensland Parliament. The Bill contains draft legislative amendments for proposals that Health Ministers agreed to in late 2019 and covers important changes such as the introduction of a paramount principle for the National Scheme and Interim Prohibition Order powers for Ahpra and National Boards.

Nello Marino

Chair
Professions Reference Group