Response form – Targeted consultation on how Ahpra and the National Boards propose to use the new power to issue public statements

19 January 2023

Targeted consultation

The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra) is undertaking targeted consultation about how Ahpra and the National Boards propose to use the new power to issue public statements (warnings). The change to the National Law to allow Ahpra and the National Boards to use this new power has not yet started.

Ahpra is releasing this targeted consultation paper to key stakeholders. For ease of reference, the targeted consultation paper is accessible on our [Ahpra National Law amendments implementation website](https://www.ahpra.gov.au/About-Ahpra/Ministerial-Directives-and-Communiques/National-Law-amendments.aspx).

Targeted consultation allows Ahpra to take a focused approach to test and refine our proposed implementation with those stakeholders that have an interest in how we are proposing to use the new power and the safeguards that will be in place to ensure the power is used lawfully and appropriately. The process provides an opportunity for key stakeholders to provide feedback that will help us improve clarity and workability.

This targeted consultation does not revisit policy decisions made by Health Ministers about public statements. The reforms were subject to multiple rounds of consultation, led by jurisdictions, over a few years before the legislative bill of amendments was finalised and introduced into Queensland Parliament.

How we will treat responses to targeted consultation

Ahpra will consider your response and any feedback before finalising the changes to our regulatory policies and procedures, and the published *Regulatory Guide*.

As this consultation is targeted, we will treat your response as being confidential and your feedback will not be published. If Ahpra receives a request for access to a submission, it will be determined in accordance with the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (Cth), which has provisions designed to protect personal information and information given in confidence.

Our aim is to finalise the changes to the *Regulatory Guide* by March 2023. Publication of the revised Regulatory Guide will need to align with the start date of the delayed changes once this is decided by Governments and the proclamation/s is made.

How to give feedback

We invite your response to specific questions in the targeted consultation paper using the response form below. You may respond to all or some of these questions. You may also like to provide other feedback that is relevant to the targeted consultation.

Please email your submission to [nationallawamendments@ahpra.gov.au](mailto:nationallawamendments@ahpra.gov.au) by close of business **Wednesday 22 February 2023**.

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Response form

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| Your details |

Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Organisation: Click or tap here to enter text.

Contact email: Click or tap here to enter text.

Contact phone: Click or tap here to enter text.

Are you making a submission as: (please check the relevant box)

A peak consumer organisation

A peak professional body

An individual consumer/member of the public

An individual health practitioner

Government or statutory authority

Other organisation – please describe: Click or tap here to enter text.

Other – please describe: Click or tap here to enter text.

Prefer not to say

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| --- |
| **Feedback** |

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| 1. **Is it clear who will be the decision maker for issuing a public statement and under what circumstances?** |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |
| 1. **Does the proposed approach provide clarity about the threshold tests that need to be met to allow either Ahpra or a National Board to issue a public statement?** |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |
| 1. **Is the guidance clear about the procedures that are to be followed to support a public statement being made, revised, or revoked?** |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |
| 1. **Is there any other information that we should consider providing to help practitioners and consumers better understand how we will use this new power to issue public statements (warnings)?** |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |
| 1. **Are there ways we can explain how this new power may be used to avoid misunderstandings among practitioners and consumers?** |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |

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| 1. **Do you have feedback on the draft wording of the proposed new chapter to be inserted into the published Regulatory Guide (Attachment B to the consultation paper)** |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |
| 1. **Is there any other information or material you believe should be included in this new chapter of the Regulatory Guide?** |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |
| 1. **Do you have any other feedback that you would like to provide?** |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |

Thank you

Thank you for participating in this targeted consultation.