

## Communiqué

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### March 2024 Cosmetic Surgery Oversight Group meeting

The independently chaired Cosmetic Surgery Oversight Group (the Oversight Group) held its sixth meeting on 21 March 2024.

The Oversight Group was established by Ahpra to provide assurance to the community, governments, health practitioners and industry stakeholders that Ahpra and the Medical Board (MBA) are implementing the recommendations of the [Independent review of the regulation of medical practitioners who perform cosmetic surgery](#) (the independent review)

#### Update on implementation progress of recommendations of the independent review

Members received a progress update from Ahpra and the Medical Board of Australia in relation to progress on each of the independent review's 16 recommendations. Members noted that work on most recommendations is either complete or now embedded in Ahpra and the Medical Board's ongoing work. Four recommendations remain open – two for monitoring and two on track for completion later this year.

#### Cosmetic surgery enforcement unit

Members received an update on work of the Ahpra Cosmetic Surgery Enforcement Unit.

Since September 2022, the Cosmetic Surgery hotline has received 708 calls leading to 302 new notifications. Two hundred and nine of these notifications have now been resolved.

Advertising audits have shown a significant improvement with most practitioners complying with guidelines. There has also been good compliance with the changes to use of the title surgeon.

Ahpra and the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) are working on providing consistent messaging in relation to the changes to the TGA's guidance on advertising cosmetic injectables.

#### Update from the Australian Commission for Safety and Quality in Health Care

Members received an update on the Commission's cosmetic surgery standards that were released on 14 December 2023. Members noted the Commission's perspective on the intersection of the work of their work with that of Ahpra and the Medical Board and future work.

#### Update from the Therapeutic Goods Administration

Members welcomed the Deputy Secretary of the Health Products Regulation Group (HPRG) within the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care which includes the TGA. Members received an update on the overview of the TGA's work in relation to non-surgical cosmetic procedures and its role in regulating medicines and medical devices and subsequent advertising.

#### Regulation of non-surgical cosmetic procedures

Members noted that public consultation on the draft guidelines for non-surgical cosmetic procedures closed on 1 March 2024. Members received an update on early analysis of numbers, types of submissions and emerging themes.

## Next meeting

The next meeting of the Oversight Group will be held on **3 June 2024**.

## More information

More information about Ahpra and National Boards' efforts to make cosmetic surgery safer can be found on the Ahpra dedicated [Cosmetic surgery hub](#).

Questions about work of the Oversight Group may be directed to the secretariat via email to: [ahpra.secretariat@ahpra.gov.au](mailto:ahpra.secretariat@ahpra.gov.au).

## Members

Members of the Oversight Group are:

Ms Delia Rickard	Independent Chair
Ms Gill Callister PSM	Chair, Ahpra Board
Adj Prof Veronica Casey AM	Chair, Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia
Prof Anne Duggan	Chief Executive Officer, Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care
Dr Paul Harrison	Chair of Consumer Behaviour and Marketing, MBA Program Director, Deakin University; Professor of Marketing and Consumer Behaviour, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore
Ms Elizabeth Koff AM	Managing Director, Telstra Health
Adj Assoc Prof Sophie Scott	Health Reporter
Dr Anne Tonkin AO	Chair, Medical Board of Australia
Prof Euan Wallace AM	Secretary, Department of Health, Victoria
Dr Murray Thomas	Chair, Dental Board of Australia