



May 2024 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Accreditation Committee meeting

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Accreditation Committee (the Committee) publishes this communiqué on the Committee's [accreditation webpage](#). Please forward it to your colleagues who may be interested.

Committee meeting

The 48th meeting of the Committee was held via face-to-face and videoconference on 30 May 2024. The Committee welcomed new member Janaya Field. A further two meetings are planned in 2024.

Some activities that were discussed at the Committee's May 2024 meeting, as well as some other key activities, are outlined below.

Assessments and monitoring activities

Accreditation assessments

The Committee considered an assessment team report, against the 2019 accreditation standards, for the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation Inc's program.

Monitoring approved programs of study

The Committee considered monitoring responses from two education providers and their programs of study. The outcomes of the Committee's evaluations will be provided to the education provider and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Board of Australia (National Board).

The Committee will continue to provide updates to the National Board on its monitoring of approved programs of study.

Routine monitoring

At its November 2023 meeting, the Committee considered the 2024 routine monitoring package. The 2024 routine monitoring package was disseminated to education providers across two tranches – in February and May 2024. The Committee will consider the 2024 routine monitoring reports at their August and November 2024 meetings for eleven programs of study.

The Committee will provide the outcomes of their findings to the education providers, and an update to the National Board, following the November 2024 meeting.

Implementation of the HLT40221 program

At its September 2023 meeting, the Committee agreed on a two-phase approach to monitoring education providers' transition to the HLT40221 Certificate IV in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Primary Health Care Practice training package (HLT40221 program).

The Committee considered a response from one education provider to phase two at its May 2024 meeting.

Committee updates

At the meeting the Committee discussed the National Board's stakeholder workshop, the updated Terms of Reference and noted the verbal report from the member that attended the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (NRAS) annual accreditation meeting in Melbourne in May 2024. Topics addressed by the keynote speakers included:

- eliminating racism in health care
- the impact of AI and emerging technologies on accreditation, and
- Our future health care workforce – is our current system of training and accreditation capable of supporting future workforce needs?

At its May meeting, the Committee also discussed:

- ABSTARR training for cultural safety assessment, and
- changes to health practitioner workforce across Australia, including in an acute setting.

Annual self-evaluation

Members reviewed the results of the Committee's 2023 annual self-evaluation survey and identified areas for enhancement of the Committee now and into the future. The Committee will provide the National Board with the outcomes of their review.

Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum

The Presiding member of the Committee and Special Accreditation Advisor provided verbal updates on the Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum (HPACF). The Committee continues to engage in the HPACF's important work. More information can be found on the HPACF's [website](#).

Stakeholder engagement

The Committee has invited representatives of National Association of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Practitioners (NAATSIHWP) to attend the August 2024 meeting to discuss matters of common interest.

The Program Accreditation team, on behalf of the Committee, continues to engage with education providers via the Committee's [accreditation webpages](#); through correspondence via email, phone contact and videoconference meetings, and communiques.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for August 2024.

Contact information

For any queries related to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice program accreditation, please contact the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Accreditation Committee via the Program Accreditation team at program.accreditation@ahpra.gov.au.

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Ahpra and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Accreditation Committee work in partnership to accredit education and training programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practice.