



Aboriginal and Torres Strait
Islander Health Practice
Chinese Medicine
Chiropractic
Dental
Medical
Medical Radiation Practice
Nursing and Midwifery
Occupational Therapy
Optometry
Osteopathy
Pharmacy
Physiotherapy
Podiatry
Psychology

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency

Agency Management Committee Communiqué

May 2018

The 97th meeting of the [Agency Management Committee](#) (AManC) was held on Tuesday 15 May 2018 in Canberra. This Communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations from the meeting.

The Chair acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land on which the meeting was being held and paid respect to their Elders, past and present.

Chair's Report

Members noted the update provided by the Chair including:

- His attendance at the Forum of NRAS Chairs meeting on 10 and 11 May 2018.
- A meeting with the Health Complaints Commissioners on 11 May.
- Hosting a dinner forum with Professor Kieran Walshe with a cross section of regulators from different sectors.

CEO Report

Members noted the written report and the verbal update from the CEO, including:

- Work is now progressing in conjunction with the Office of the Health Ombudsman to follow up recommendations of the Queensland Parliamentary Committee
- The Jurisdictional Advisory Committee met on 9 May 2018 and discussed a range of issues, including the draft business case in relation to registration fees
- The Medical Board of Australia conference was successfully held on 3 and 4 May 2018. The Chair of the Board, Dr Jo Flynn gave a very well received dinner speech reflecting on 29 years as a medical regulator.
- The consultation on changes to the Regulatory Operations operating model and structure is underway with extensive staff engagement. The consultation closes on 21 May.
- The 700,000th health practitioner has been registered (an Enrolled Nurse from Victoria).
- The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Strategy Statement of Intent launch event is scheduled to be held in July 2018.

The Chair thanked the CEO for his report.

Verbal update Regulatory Performance Committee meeting on 10 May 2018

Members noted an update from Dr Susan Young including:

- Regular reporting will commence to National Boards on the status of on hold matters.
- Counselling as a notifications outcome: the Psychology Board of Australia trial will run over twelve months in order to obtain a sufficient number of matters, Case studies have been developed for use in the impending training of the counsellors. RPC
- Members discussed two papers on registration issues.
- Members discussed timeframes for assessment of non-medical notifications matters and the completion rate for investigations.

The Chair thanked Dr Young for the report.

Equity and Cost Allocation Reference Group: Communiqué

Members noted the unconfirmed Communiqué of the 17 April 2018 meeting of the Equity and Cost Allocation Working Group.

Forum of NRAS Chairs

Members noted an update from Mr Ian Bluntish, Co-Chair Forum of NRAS Chairs including:

- Positive feedback from Chairs in regard to the Forum of Chairs meetings which are working well.
- Ms Bronwyn Clark, Chair and Mr Michael Shobbrook, Deputy Chair, Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum attended and spoke about the work of the Forum.
- Mr Paul Shinkfield provided a presentation on work underway to refresh the NRAS Strategy. There was also a helpful discussion about opportunities to better align and link project work across National Boards with a helpful accompanying analysis of common areas of interest.
- There was an interesting discussion on future options to develop the accessibility and functionality of the National Registers.
- Mr Tim Kelsey, CEO, Australian Digital Health Agency attended the meeting and presented on the national digital health agenda. A follow up workshop is planned.

The Chair reminded all members that there an open invitation for National Board Chairs to attend the Agency Management Committee and that the invitation is also extended for Agency Management members to attend the Forum of NRAS Chairs meetings.

The Chair thanked Mr Bluntish for his report.

Comments from Mr Bill Kelly, Chair, Pharmacy Board of Australia

Members noted an update from Mr Kelly including:

- an upcoming pharmacy prescribing forum which is being convened by the Board with a range of stakeholders participating.
- the status of the Board budget and the business case for registration fees.
- upcoming Board meeting in Darwin which will include a visit to the national trauma centre and a workshop on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health.
- a Parliamentary inquiry which has been announced in Queensland considering issues associated with the regulation of pharmacy premises and related considerations (including scope of practice).
- the status of Board members appointments and an expectation of a significant number of new appointments, given Board members terms which are ending.

The Chair thanked Mr Kelly for his comments.

Presentation on key data and initiatives

Ms Ayscough gave a presentation on key data and analysis in relation to the performance targets for notifications and initiatives underway or planned to address. The Committee discussed the presentation and noted the areas in which improvements have been made in timeliness, particularly where new service models have been introduced; the timeframes for non-medical notifications matters in some locations, and; the international comparators with the General Medical Council, noting significant differences in legislation and model of operation.

Registration issues

Ms Ayscough provided an overview of the key findings of the analysis which was undertaken on recent medical registration issues and the post action review on the graduate application process.

Business items

In other business items, the Committee:

- Endorsed the report of the Strategic Risk Workshop to inform advice to the Finance, Audit and Risk Management Committee.
- Received an update from Ms Judith Pettitt who has commenced as the interim Executive Director People and Culture and is working on a number of People and Culture areas reporting directly to the CEO.
- Noted an update about the current review of the existing accreditation arrangements in the National Scheme, which end in mid-2019. Public consultation concluded on 14 May 2018 and the review is on track for completion by mid-2018.
- Noted an update from the AHPRA ACT Manager Mr Anthony McEachran on the work of AHPRA and Boards in the ACT.
- Noted the budget update for FY 2018-19.
- Noted the Second Quarter 2017-18 Strategic Performance Report and also noted the report will be provided to National Boards.

Next meeting of the Agency Management Committee

- 19 June 2018, AHPRA Darwin Office