



## April 2021 Medical Radiation Practice Accreditation Committee meeting

The Medical Radiation Practice Accreditation Committee (the Committee) publishes this communiqué on the Committee's [accreditation webpages](#). Please forward it to your colleagues who may be interested.

### Committee's response to COVID-19

The Committee and Ahpra continue to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and its potential impacts on accredited and approved programs. The Committee has released statements outlining its plans for its accreditation activities on the '[News and updates](#)' accreditation webpage.

### Committee meeting

The 56th meeting of the Committee was held on 20 April 2021 via Zoom. The Committee anticipates holding two more meetings in 2021.

Some activities that were discussed at the Committee's April 2021 meeting, as well as some other activities, are outlined more thoroughly below.

### Accreditation assessments in 2021-2022

At the April 2021 meeting, the Committee considered and selected assessment teams for upcoming accreditation assessments in the 2021-2022 financial year. The proposed assessment team membership was aligned with the updated [Approach to establishment of assessment teams for medical radiation practice](#) published on the Committee's accreditation webpage.

On behalf of the Committee, the Program Accreditation Team, will send details about each selected assessor, including their name and relevant background, to the education provider. The education provider has an opportunity to provide details of any matters that it considers may influence or be perceived to influence, the ability of any selected assessor to fulfil their responsibilities objectively. In such circumstances, the Committee and the Program Accreditation Team will manage any actual, perceived or potential influence on the ability of the assessor to fulfil their responsibilities objectively before establishing the Assessment Team.

The Committee also noted the status and due dates of applications for upcoming accreditation assessments in the 2021-2022 financial year.

### Monitoring approved programs of study

Under section 50 of the National Law, the Committee has a statutory responsibility to monitor approved programs of study and the education providers offering them.

At the April 2021 meeting, the Committee considered monitoring responses from three education providers.

### 2021 Routine annual monitoring

At its April 2021 meeting, the Committee confirmed its 2021 Routine annual monitoring package and timeframes for reporting. The 2021 Routine annual monitoring report form and associated templates will be disseminated to education providers in May 2021. The Routine annual monitoring reports will seek information from education providers on the downstream impacts of COVID-19 in 2021 and beyond.

The Committee will continue to provide advice to the Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia (National Board) on its monitoring of approved programs including the downstream impacts of COVID-19.

### **Updated accreditation standards for medical radiation practice**

The Committee has recently published its updated 2019 accreditation standards for medical radiation practice (accreditation standards) on the Committee's [accreditation pages](#).

In late 2020, the Committee sought feedback from key stakeholders, including education providers, on proposed updates to the accreditation standards relating to the National Scheme's definition of cultural safety, and information relevant to the quality use of medicines.

The Committee considered the feedback at the January 2021 meeting, and presented the proposed updates to the National Board for approval in February 2021. The National Board considered and approved the updated accreditation standards at their March 2021 meeting.

The updated accreditation standards are being disseminated out to all education providers delivering medical radiation practice programs.

### **Accreditation fees for medical radiation practice**

As outlined in the January 2021 communique, the Committee is considering its approach to accreditation fees for medical radiation practice programs of study in 2021 and beyond.

The Committee recently sought feedback from education providers on a proposed approach to accreditation fees for the period 2021-2024, and will consider the feedback before submitting its proposal to the National Board in May 2021.

### **March 2021 Key Performance Indicators reporting to the National and Ahpra**

As outlined in section 7 of its [Terms of Reference \(ToR\)](#), the Committee must provide to the National Board reports and supporting documentation in accordance with the timeframes and form and content requirements as identified in attachment F of the ToR.

The Committee submitted its March 2021 Key Performance Indicator report to the National Board on 31 March 2021.

### **Stakeholder engagement**

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 and phone contact, and communiques.

In 2020 the Committee met with Medical Radiations Australia, the Australian Society of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy, and the Australian and New Zealand Society of Nuclear Medicine to discuss key issues in medical radiation practice accreditation and education, particularly the impact of COVID-19 on programs of study, students and work integrated learning. The Committee is eager to continue these important discussions with these key stakeholders in 2021.

### **Contact information**

For any queries related to medical radiation practice accreditation, please contact the Medical Radiation Practice Accreditation Committee via the Program Accreditation Team at [program.accreditation@ahpra.gov.au](mailto:program.accreditation@ahpra.gov.au).

For more information on medical radiation practice accreditation please visit the Committee's [accreditation webpages](#).

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Ahpra and the Medical Radiation Practice Accreditation Committee work in partnership to accredit education and training programs for medical radiation practice.