

Communiqué

June 2024 Cosmetic Surgery Oversight Group meeting

The independently chaired Cosmetic Surgery Oversight Group (the Oversight Group) held its seventh meeting on 3 June 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 all recommendations is now either complete, embedded in Ahpra and the Medical Board's ongoing work, or being led by other entities. Subject to agreement by the Ahpra Board and Medical Board, the Oversight Group recommends that Ahpra and the Medical Board's implementation of work arising from the cosmetic surgery review is now complete.

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 more than 770 calls, leading to 337 new complaints. More than 250 of these complaints have now been resolved. 35 registered health practitioners have faced regulatory action following investigations into their performance.

Advertising audits have continued to show a significant improvement in practitioners complying with the new Guidelines for registered medical practitioners who advertise cosmetic surgery. Over 135 proactive advertising audits have been completed and 11 practitioners have faced regulatory action in relation to their advertising.

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

Members received an update on services seeking accreditation with the Commission's cosmetic surgery standards that were released on 14 December 2023.

Update from the Therapeutic Goods Administration

Members received an update on the TGA's latest work in relation to non-surgical cosmetic procedures, its role in regulating medicines and medical devices and subsequent advertising.

Regulation of non-surgical cosmetic procedures

Members received an update on analysis of feedback received in response to public consultation on the draft guidelines for non-surgical cosmetic procedures that closed on 1 March 2024. Work is progressing on these draft guidelines and further updates will be published in due course.

Guest presentation from Operation Redress

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency
National Boards

GPO Box 9958 Melbourne VIC 3001 Ahpra.gov.au 1300 419 495

Operation Redress is a consumer advocacy organisation, with a particular focus on social media use and advertising by medical practitioners who perform cosmetic surgery. Operation Redress was interviewed as part of some of the media coverage leading up to, during and post the *Independent review of the regulation of medical practitioners who perform cosmetic surgery*.

Operation Redress' Directors and co-founders, Mr Michael Fraser and Ms Maddison Johnstone, presented at the June 2024 Oversight Group meeting to share their reflection on the last 2 years, changes they have seen since the cosmetic surgery review, and what they see to be the issues ahead for the cosmetic surgery sector.

Completion of the Cosmetic Surgery Oversight Group

The Oversight Group considers Ahpra and the Medical Board's work on all the independent review's recommendations is completed or embedded in ongoing work. Oversight Group members current appointments end in June 2024 and this meeting was the final meeting of the group in this form.

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.

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