



Response template for the proposed Interprofessional Collaborative Practice Statement of Intent public consultation

June 2023

This response template is the preferred way to submit your response to the public consultation on the draft proposed **Interprofessional Collaborative Practice (IPCP) Statement of Intent**.

Please provide any feedback in this document, including your responses to all or some of the questions in the text boxes on the following pages. The boxes will expand to accommodate your response. You do not need to respond to a question if you have no comment.

Making a submission

Please complete this response template and email to AC_consultation@ahpra.gov.au using the subject line 'Feedback: Proposed Interprofessional Collaborative Practice Statement of Intent'. **Submissions are due by COB 8 August 2023**

Publication of submissions

We publish submissions at our discretion. We generally publish submissions on our [website](#) to encourage discussion and inform the community and stakeholders about consultation responses. Please let us know if you do not want your submission published.

We will not place on our website, or make available to the public, submissions that contain offensive or defamatory comments or which are outside the scope of the subject of the consultation. Before publication, we may remove personally identifying information from submissions, including contact details.

We can accept submissions made in confidence. These submissions will not be published on the website or elsewhere. Submissions may be confidential because they include personal experiences or other sensitive information. A request for access to a confidential submission will be determined in accordance with the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (Cth), which has provisions designed to protect personal information and information given in confidence. Please let us know if you do not want us to publish your submission or if you want us to treat all or part of it as confidential.

Published submissions will include the names of the individuals and/or the organisations that made the submission unless confidentiality is expressly requested.

Do you want your responses to be published?

- Yes – Please publish my response with my name
- Yes – Please publish my response but don't publish my name
- No I do not want my responses to be published

Stakeholder details

Please provide your details in the following table:

Name:	Anton Barnett-Harris, CEO
Organisation name:	Australian Physiotherapy Council
Interest in joining as a signatory to the final statement	Is your organisation interested in being invited to sign the final statement? Yes

Your responses to the consultation questions

1. Is the content, language and structure of the proposed statement clear and relevant? Why or why not?
<p>The Australian Physiotherapy Council (the Council) is grateful for the opportunity to comment on the proposed Interprofessional Collaborative Practice Statement of Intent (the proposed Statement).</p> <p>It is pleasing to see the term 'Interprofessional Collaborative Practice' (IPCP) used in full within the proposed Statement title. In relation to the term itself, however, the Council supports the Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum (the Forum) position of a preference of the term 'collaborative practice' over 'interprofessional collaborative practice'.</p> <p>The Council commends the inclusion of the definition of IPCP within the proposed Statement. However, it is noted that the definition differs from that in the Accreditation Committee's (the Committee) recent separate public consultation on its proposed glossary of accreditation terms, with the addition of the phrase "that is free of racism across settings." As noted in the Forum's submission to this consultation, highest quality of care naturally requires culturally safe care that is free of racism. To maintain consistency, it is recommended that the definition used in the proposed Statement aligns with that of the proposed glossary of accreditation terms.</p> <p>The Council invites the Committee to consider noting the term 'National Registration and Accreditation Scheme' in full at its first mention within the document (paragraph 3), and using the 'National Scheme' and/or 'NRAS' abbreviations for subsequent references throughout the remainder of the text.</p>
2. Is there anything else the accreditation committee should consider that would be helpful to include in the proposed statement? If so, please provide details.
<p>In line with the Forum's submission to this consultation, the Council recommends the proposed Statement include specific reference to embedding interprofessional education in health professional training as a means of developing collaborative practitioners and thereby enabling the realisation of collaborative practice. Similarly, the Council shares the Forum's reservations regarding how some of the shared goals outlined in the proposed Statement may be achieved given the Committee's remit under the <i>Ministerial Council Policy Direction 2020-1 – Independent Accreditation Committee advice</i>.</p>
3. Do you have any general comments or other feedback about the proposed statement?

The Council commends the Committee's efforts to embed IPCP in healthcare education, training, and practice in Australia as a means to enhance healthcare experiences, and ultimately, health outcomes. The Council is similarly committed to this vision, continuing to use physiotherapy accreditation as a lever to further strengthen integration of IPCP principles within entry-level programs. This includes the requirement under the Council's current Accreditation Standard for education providers to demonstrate that principles of interprofessional learning and practice – including National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards in relation to collaborative practice and team-based care – are embedded within program curricula. Additionally, program learning outcomes are required to align to the key competencies and foundational abilities of a qualified physiotherapy practitioner as defined by the *Physiotherapy practice thresholds in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand*, which includes a thematic role specifically devoted to collaborative practice, as well as integration of this concept throughout several other key competencies.