

From: Moira SIM

Sent: Thursday, 24 October 2019 6:53 PM

To: bbvguidelines <bbvguidelines@ahpra.gov.au>

Subject: Consultation on Guidelines for registered health practitioners and students in relation to blood borne viruses

Dear Sir/Madam

I refer to the above consultation. In relation to the consultation, Edith Cowan University who provides undergraduate and paramedic programs makes the following observations,

- The guidelines:
 - inform all practitioners registered by the Dental, Medical, Nursing and Midwifery, Paramedic and Podiatry Boards of Australia that they must comply with the CDNA guidelines, as current and as revised in the future. That includes testing for blood-borne viruses explain the circumstances in which a practitioner treating a registered health practitioner or student may have a responsibility to notify AHPRA that their patient is living with a blood-borne virus, and
 - provide information on the range of actions that a Board may take if it receives a notification that a registered health practitioner or student is infected with a blood-borne virus and may be impaired or otherwise poses a risk to the public.
- The Board recommends an option for the revised guidelines as follows: Option 2 is to consult on proposed guidelines that require practitioners to comply with the AHMAC endorsed CDNA guidelines. The guidelines contain general guidance for all practitioners and provide additional guidance for practitioners who are treating a practitioner or student with a blood-borne virus.
- Implications for education providers: If the guideline is adopted it will become incumbent upon providers to inform students of the guideline, and ensure that our orientation and induction units (particularly practical units) provide information on practitioners with BBV or what to do when the student is treating someone with a BBV.
- ECU supports the option being proposed by the Board

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