



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

Communiqué – Prescribing Working Group

March 2015

Working group to focus on consistency in the development and review of regulatory policy for the prescribing of medicines

The Prescribing Working Group (PWG) formed by the Chairs of National Boards in the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme) held their second meeting via teleconference on 5 March 2015.

The Prescribing Working Group (PWG) will review and advise on the governance structures and processes to support the development and review of regulatory policy that enables the prescribing of medicines by registered health practitioners. It is expected that this will provide a consistent, transparent and rigorous approach to the development and review of regulatory policy for prescribing, in order to ensure the objectives of the National Scheme are met.

The PWG consists of representatives from the National Boards, the Health Professions Accreditation Councils' Forum, NPS MedicineWise, State and Territory health departments, consumers and health professionals.

The PWG is continuing to work on a core document intended to describe the existing governance structures that National Boards, Accreditation Authorities, and AHPRA already consider in the development and review of all regulatory policy as well as the additional considerations expected when the policy relates to the prescribing of scheduled medicines.

This core document will ensure that both the NPS Prescribing Competency Framework and the Health Professions Prescribing Pathway are central to the development and review of any of these policies.

The PWG will recommend the core document once finalised to the National Boards through the Forum of Chairs so that they may consult widely with their stakeholders.

The PWG will continue its work at its next meeting in May.

For more information

- Visit www.ahpra.gov.au under *Contact us* to lodge an online enquiry form
- Visit the individual Boards' websites for specific registration information and FAQ, accessible via www.ahpra.gov.au
- For registration enquiries: 1300 419 495 (within Australia) +61 3 8708 9001 (overseas callers)
- For media enquiries: (03) 8708 9200