

Achieving greater national consistency for the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Health Worker and Health Practitioner professions

Advisory Group Meeting Public Update

Date: Tuesday 12 December 2023

Time: 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm (AEDT)

Location: Microsoft Teams

- Attendees:**
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Board of Australia (Co-Chair)
 - National Association of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Practitioners (Co-Chair)
 - National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation
 - Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation
 - Aboriginal Health Council of South Australia Limited
 - Aboriginal Health & Medical Research Council of NSW
 - Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre
 - Aboriginal Health Council of Western Australia
 - Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council
 - HumanAbility
 - Royal Australian College of General Practitioners
 - Indigenous Allied Health Australia
 - Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives
 - Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association
 - Department of Health and Aged Care
 - National Indigenous Australians Agency
 - Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

Advisory Group Meeting Overview

12 December 2023

Project Overview & Update

This was the first meeting of the Advisory Group. There was discussion of meeting governance, and an overview of the project background and objectives. The group also clarified the Project scope, including the limitation of research and recommendations on a national *minimum* scope of practice based on the core units in the qualifications, and the intersections and differences between this Project and the federal government's 'Unleashing the Potential of our Health Workforce' Scope of Practice Review.

State & Territory Scopes of Practice

NAATSIHWP presented their research on documents governing scopes of practice and medicines & poisons legislation in each State & Territory. Feedback was sought on the accuracy of the research. Most participants agreed with the findings, with some further questions on recent reforms in Victoria and Western Australia. The group also considered possible gaps in legislation and policy governing scopes in private practice in all jurisdictions.

Advice on consultation strategy

Suggestions for face-to-face consultation locations in 2024 were discussed, with a focus on identifying locations which would allow for broad consultation of as many workforce members as possible, within the limit of up to 3 face-to-face consults in each jurisdiction.

Next steps

Members were encouraged to provide further written feedback on scope sources and consultation locations in the week after the meeting.

The Advisory Group will meet twice in 2024, once during the consultation phase, and again at the conclusion of the project for a face-to-face workshop to discuss final findings and next steps.