



Health Ministers Meeting (HMM): *Communique* **7 December 2023**

National Cabinet met in Canberra on 6th December to discuss important progress on key reforms. Health Ministers welcome two important decisions by National Cabinet, arising from reviews that will shape the future of Australia's healthcare systems.

[The Mid-term Review of the National Health Reform Agreement](#) has been led by Ms Rosemary Huxtable AO PSM, and involved extensive consultation and submissions from jurisdictions, peak bodies, and other health system representatives. National Cabinet has endorsed the Final Report of the Mid-term Review.

Health Ministers thank Ms Huxtable for her engagement and welcome the recommendations of the Final Report. This important review will inform the negotiation of the next National Health Reform Agreement Addendum, which is due to commence in 2025. Health Ministers welcome the Commonwealth Government's commitment through National Cabinet to increase its funding contribution under the next Addendum, which will help guide negotiations.

[The Independent Review of Healthcare Regulatory Settings](#) was commissioned by National Cabinet and led by Ms Robyn Kruk AO. The review covered health practitioner registration, skill and qualification recognition for overseas trained health professionals and international students who have studied in Australia. The Final Report of the review is welcomed by Health Ministers and was endorsed by National Cabinet.

Health Ministers welcome the announcement of funding to implement the health-related recommendations of the report, which will help to alleviate workforce pressures on the health system and ensure patients across Australia have the best chance to access the right care, where and when they need it.