



UPDATE FROM INDEPENDENT REVIEW LEAD PROFESSOR MARK CORMACK

I am pleased to announce the release of [Issues Paper 1](#) for [Unleashing the potential of our health workforce – Scope of Practice Review](#).

Working with our research partners at University of Queensland (UQ), we have drawn together and analysed the evidence collected from submissions, literature review and stakeholder consultations from Phase 1. This Issues Paper is the result of that analysis – it provides an overview of the evidence, outlines the emerging themes, and sets the scene for the next steps of the review.

The evidence we have gathered has allowed us to identify key interconnected themes that play a pivotal role in health professionals working to full scope of practice: legislation and regulation, employer practices and settings, education and training, funding policy, and technology.

Your contributions have provided invaluable insights, laying the foundation for a comprehensive understanding of the current landscape. It is important to note that as the first paper of two to be developed through this review, Issues Paper 1 does not draw conclusions, nor make recommendations. Rather, it serves as a starting point for further discussions, seeking your continued engagement in a thorough exploration of the complex elements which contribute to both the current and future state of health professional scope of practice in the context of multidisciplinary primary care.

The release of Issues Paper 1 also signals the start of the review's second round of consultation (Phase 2). Your continued involvement is paramount and there are several ways in which you can take part.

Issues Paper 1 is now available both on the [review website](#) and on our [consultation hub](#), as part of a survey to seek your views and guidance on the emerging themes. Submissions addressing the questions are also welcome. In February we commence a national program of workshops to further explore the themes, analyse the opportunities for improvement and start to shape some practical proposals for reform, for assessment and consideration in Phase 3. In March, the Review team will continue to meet with key organisations and stakeholders to further these discussions.

As we move forward, please bear in mind that this is an ongoing dialogue. I encourage you to participate actively in the online consultation, sharing your perspectives, insights, and any additional considerations. Together, we can ensure that scope of practice in Australia evolves to effectively meet the challenges and needs of contemporary primary care.

Thank you for your commitment to this significant endeavour, and I look forward to your continued collaboration.

Best regards,

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