Australian Government
Department of Health, Disability and Ageing

Nurse Practitioner Workforce Plan Implementation Advisory Group

Meeting Communique November 2026

The eighth meeting of the Nurse Practitioner Workforce Plan (Plan) Implementation Advisory Group (IAG) was held on Monday 2 November 2026.

Members welcomed the positive growth in the nurse practitioner workforce and acknowledged the work underway across the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing to support the aims of the Plan. Updates on broader nurse practitioner practice and workforce reform highlighted continued momentum in implementing the Plan and supporting further workforce growth.

Members discussed priorities for the next phase of implementation of the Plan, with a focus on areas requiring longer-term planning and system change. Priorities included strengthening education and practice support, recruitment and retention, sustainable and flexible models of care, and improved workforce planning and data. Members also highlighted opportunities to further develop nurse practitioner models across aged care, rural and remote communities, mental health, urgent care and multidisciplinary primary care.

The IAG reviewed progress in monitoring and evaluating the Plan. Members highlighted opportunities to strengthen future monitoring, including better capturing nurse practitioner activity in public health services, pathways towards endorsement, and rural and remote workforce distribution.

Members endorsed revised Terms of Reference, including moving to two meetings each year and adding the Office of the Rural Health Commissioner to the membership.

The next IAG will take place in the first quarter of 2027.