

**Minutes of the
National Medical Training Advisory
Network**

**22 March 2019
Meeting**

**Bendigo/Wangaratta Room
Parkroyal Melbourne Airport**

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BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Attendance

Committee members

Professor Brendan Murphy
Dr Andrew Singer
Dr Susan Wearne

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Commonwealth Department of Health
Commonwealth Department of Health
Commonwealth Department of Health
Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine
AMA Council of Doctors in Training
Australian Medical Students' Association
Australian Private Hospitals Association
ACT Health Directorate
Department of Health Northern Territory
Department of Health Queensland
Department of Health Victoria
Medical Board of Australia
National Rural Health Alliance
New South Wales Ministry of Health
Royal Australasian College of Medical Administrators
Rural Doctors Association of Australia
South Australia Health
Royal Australian College of General Practitioners
Western Australia Department of Health

Proxy Members

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Department of Health and Human Services Tasmania
Australian Medical Council
Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association
Confederation of Postgraduate Medical Education
Councils

Observers

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Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association

Apologies

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Australian Salaried Medical Officers' Federation
Catholic Health Australia
Royal Australasian College of Physicians - Proxy
Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association
Australian Medical Association
Australian Medical Council

Presenters

Ms Lynne Gillam
Ms Chris Jeacle
Ms Fay Holden

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Commonwealth Department of Health
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission

Secretariat

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Commonwealth Department of Health
Commonwealth Department of Health

1. General Business

Professor Brendan Murphy welcomed members to the meeting and welcomed new members representing the Australian Medical Association, the Australian Medical Students' Association, South Australia Health and the Confederation of Postgraduate Medical Education Councils.

Apologies were received from six members who were unable to attend the meeting. The Chair welcomed those attending the meeting as proxies.

Minutes were endorsed and the outcomes of actions from the previous meeting were noted.

Outcome: NMTAN members endorsed the minutes of the 23 November 2018 Executive Committee meeting.

2. National Medical Workforce Strategy (NMWS)

Professor Murphy informed members that the NMWS project has been launched and has received broad support from the Health Services Principal Committee (HSPC), the Australian Health Minister's Advisory Council (AHMAC) and the Council of Australian Governments Health Council (CHC).

The project to develop the NMWS will be split into two phases:

1. Development of a Scoping Framework by 30 June 2019. The Scoping Framework will identify priorities and confirm the key policy themes to be addressed by the NMWS and is being funded by the Commonwealth.
2. Development of the NMWS, identification of strategic actions to be taken and commencement of their implementation, and endorsement by HSPC, AHMAC and CHC. Phase two is being funded through an AHMAC-agreed cost-shared model and it is expected that the NMWS will be completed in 2020.

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4. Australian Competition & Consumer Commission

s 22, General Manager of Enforcement NSW and ACT for the Australian Competition & Consumer Commission (ACCC) provided a presentation on the ACCC's role, how anticompetitive behaviour is defined and their role in, and process for, issuing authorisations for behaviours/actions that may reduce competition on the grounds that there are public benefits that outweigh the restrictions.

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6. HeaDS UPP tool demonstration and GP Headcount and Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Methodology

s 22 presented new methodology for counting Specialist General Practitioners and other medical practitioners providing primary health care services and for calculating General Practitioner Full-Time Equivalent (GPFTE) for the Health Demand and Supply Utilisation Patterns Planning (HeaDS UPP) Tool.

Members were broadly supportive of the new FTE measure, but it was noted that the fact sheets that have been prepared need to be reworked to support a broader understanding of the methodology.

s 22 presented the beta version of the new HeaDS UPP Tool. The key features of the tool were demonstrated with a key emphasis on showing members how GP services have been mapped by catchment to support local level planning.

The HeaDS UPP data set is based on MBS data and is subject to the secrecy provisions of s130 of the *Health Insurance Act 1973*. The Commonwealth has worked to de-identify and aggregate data. Noting concerns around data sharing, the Commonwealth would like to move to a trust-based approach to make appropriately aggregated data available. The Department's IT Division has engaged a consultancy to examine issues of privacy more broadly. This work may inform how issues of privacy are treated by HeaDS UPP.

Action: Health to revise GP FTE Measure fact sheets to support a broader understanding of the new methodology.

7. Revised Terms of Reference (ToRs) and Guidelines

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8. Other business

Members noted that the NMWS Steering committee will meet on 11 April 2019. The Department expects to have engaged the external consultancy to undertake the NWMS Scoping Framework before this meeting and that the project and consultation plans for this work will be presented at this meeting.

The next meeting of the MWRAC will be on 7 June 2019.