

Update from the Medical Radiation Practice Accreditation Committee

September 2019

Committee activities in 2019

The Medical Radiation Practice Accreditation Committee (the Committee) exercises a number of accreditation functions under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law as in force in each state and territory (the National Law).

The Accreditation Committee publishes this update on the Board's [accreditation webpage](#). Please forward it to your colleagues and employees who may be interested.

Committee activities

The 48th meeting of the Committee was held on the 14 and 15 August 2019 at the National office in Melbourne.

To date, the Committee has accredited 32 medical radiation practice programs across 11 Education Providers. Graduates from these accredited programs are qualified to register as a Medical Radiation Practitioner, and have the skills, knowledge and professional attributes to competently practise in the medical radiation profession.

The list of accredited programs is available on the Committee's accredited programs page of the Board's website.

A key activity for the Committee in 2019 is monitoring these accredited programs to ensure they continue to meet the Committee's standards, including through evaluation of Education Providers' responses to conditions imposed on their accreditation and via routine annual monitoring.

The Committee undertook one site visit in April 2019 to an education provider as part of the accreditation assessment process. It has no other applications for accreditation due in 2019. The Committee met recently in August and considered responses from a number of Education Providers about their accredited programs. The Committee's final meeting of 2019 is in October. The Committee is currently finalising its proposed 2020 meeting dates.

Committee membership

The Board is currently considering applications for two positions on the Medical Radiation Practice Accreditation Committee for two members whose term ends on 31 December 2019. The Board is expected to announce the successful applicants in late-2019.

The Committee currently comprises seven members:

- Professor Brian Jolly
Chair and educationalist member
- Associate Professor Sarah Lewis
Deputy Chair, practitioner member (Diagnostic Radiography) and academic
- Mrs Jane Shepherdson
Practitioner member (Diagnostic Radiography) and academic
- Dr Daphne James
Practitioner member (Nuclear Medicine) and academic

- Dr Louise McCall
Educationalist member
- Ms Natalie Pollard
Practitioner member (Radiation Therapy) and academic
- Ms Allison Dry
Practitioner member (Radiation Therapy) and academic

The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) provides the secretariat functions for the Accreditation Committee via its Program Accreditation Team.

Medical Radiation Practice accreditation standards

The Accreditation Committee is responsible for developing and recommending accreditation standards to the Board for approval, and the Board is responsible for approving and publishing the accreditation standards against which education providers and their implementation of medical radiation practice programs of study (programs) are assessed when applying for accreditation under the National Law.

In late 2017, the Committee commenced a review of its accreditation standards for medical radiation practice. The project adopted a multi-profession approach, which included the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practice and Chinese medicine professions who were also due to review their accreditation standards.

The commencement of the project began with the appointed project team undertaking a series of education provider forums across Australia to promote early stakeholder input into the review.

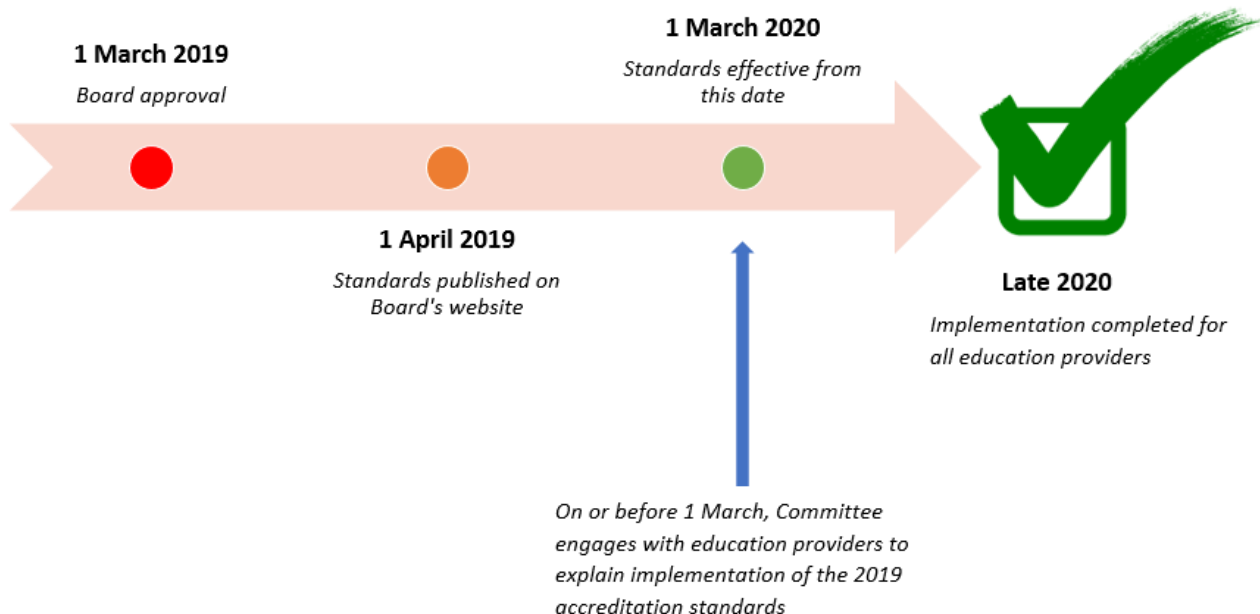
Following consultations with the education sector, other health professions and federal, state and territory governments, and an eight-week public consultation process about the content of the proposed revised accreditation standards, the Committee submitted the revised standards to the Board. The Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia (the Board) will publish the revised standards alongside the Professional Capabilities.

The 2019 accreditation standards will replace the current (2013) accreditation standards and continue to provide for the protection of the public by ensuring that only graduates with the knowledge, skills and professional attributes necessary to practise in a competent and ethical manner qualify for registration in the profession.

Accreditation standards help to ensure that education providers give students the knowledge, skills and professional attributes to competently practise in the medical radiation practice profession.

2019 Accreditation standards

The implementation journey



Accreditation process

The [2013 accreditation process](#) for medical radiation practice (the accreditation process) describes the process of which the Committee will use to assess, accredit and monitor medical radiation practice education providers and programs against the standards for medical radiation practice.

To align with the joint review of the 2013 accreditation standards for medical radiation practice, and in order to support the implementation of the revised 2019 accreditation standards, a routine review of the current accreditation process is underway.

As with the joint review of the accreditation standards, this review is multi-profession and includes the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Health Practice, Chinese Medicine, Paramedicine and Podiatry Accreditation Committees. By adopting a multi-profession approach to the development of new and/or revised accreditation processes, there is an opportunity for the Committees to improve communication, increase transparency, achieve efficiencies and identify areas where further support for education providers is needed. The project is focused on a review of the current processes for each profession to identify common themes and profession-specific requirements.

The outcome will be an updated and user-friendly accreditation process that aligns with the revised 2019 accreditation standards for medical radiation practice.

The Committee will be undertaking a targeted consultation with key stakeholders in the second half of 2019 to provide feedback on the draft revised accreditation process.

Contact information

For any queries related to medical radiation practice program accreditation, please contact the Medical Radiation Practice Accreditation Committee via the Program Accreditation Team via email at program.accreditation@ahpra.gov.au.

For more information on medical radiation practice accreditation please visit the Board's [accreditation webpage](#). Further information will be added to the website as the Committee's accreditation functions progress.

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