

The National Framework for Medical Internship is under review

The Australian Medical Council has commenced a review of the National Framework for Medical Internship.



What is the National Framework for Medical Internship?

The Framework was developed by the AMC, on behalf of the Medical Board of Australia, to complement new national registration requirements implemented in 2014. The Framework sets standards and provides guidance for intern terms, outcomes and assessment linked to the [General registration standard](#) as well as national requirements for accreditation of intern posts and programs.

Outcomes	Assessment	Programs and terms	Accreditation
Key outcomes that interns should achieve by the end of their one-year program	National assessment form and standards on assessment and remediation processes	Requirements for processes, systems and resources for quality intern training	Standards and processes for accreditation of intern training accreditation authorities (PMCs)
× Intern outcome statements	× Assessment form × Certifying completion	× National standards for programs × Guidelines for terms	× Domains for assessing authorities × Procedures for accreditation

How does this relate to the COAG 2015 Review of Medical Intern Training?

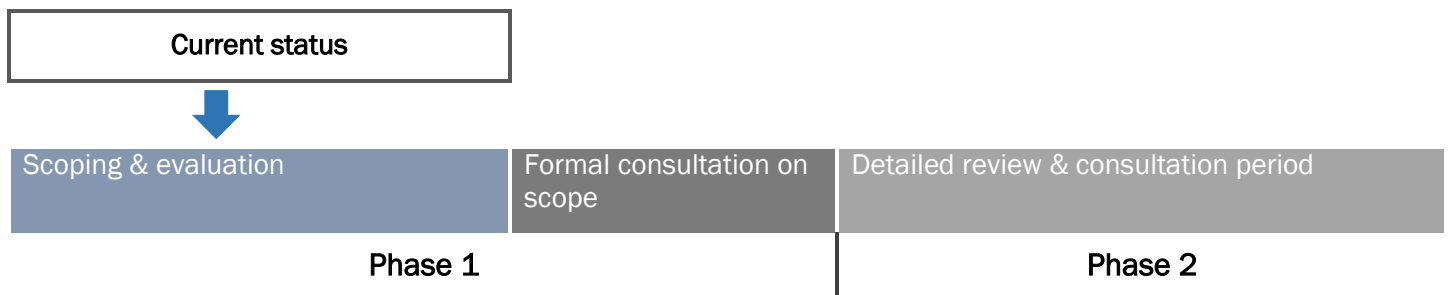


In 2018, [Health Ministers' released their response](#) to the 2015 COAG Review of Medical Intern Training. The AMC will consider the findings of that review, and take account of recommendations endorsed by Health Ministers. New South Wales is the jurisdiction leading national implementation of key recommendations, including the plans for a two-year Capability and Performance Framework on behalf of the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council (AHMAC). The AMC supports this development, and AMC work will be informed by these plans.



What is the review process?

The AMC is conducting a two- stage review. The AMC is currently consulting key stakeholders as it shapes its thinking about the scope of the review, it will then publish a formal consultation document. Further information about the review process can be found [here](#).





Latest news in the review

The AMC's preliminary findings highlight improvements to the consistency and quality of the intern year since the implementation of the Framework in 2014. However, consistent with the findings of the 2015 COAG Review of Medical Internship, variation remains in the quality of learning and assessment.

Overall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> × Overall quality and consistency improved at a national level × Internship is not a program, there is limited longitudinal oversight of intern experience and development
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> × Articulate important areas. Outcomes, term & role expectations are disconnected × Are not routinely monitored or tracked across the year × Concerns about identifying and assessing Domain 3: population health, Indigenous health and quality assurance
Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> × Assessment quality is variable, based on short-term exposure and not multi-source × Form improved. Design and descriptor rating scales need further improvement × Concerns about the use of forms (registration, employment and development)
Programs and term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> × Mandatory terms. Overall agreement on need for general experience but concerns this is not being achieved in the current system × Current internship model does not reflect healthcare system or health needs × Positive impact of changes to strengthen patient safety and junior doctor wellbeing
Accreditation (Of PMCs accreditation processes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> × Supports national consistency in accreditation periods × Drives internal reflection and review, robust and challenging × Strengthened role and independence of accreditation authorities and provides external reassurance

The following will be areas of focus in the review:

- × A longitudinal approach to internship
- × Improving quality and reducing variability of learning and assessment
- × Mandatory term requirements, including system flexibility and relevance
- × Expanded settings
- × Change to support a two-year Capability and Performance Framework, including support and structure for postgraduate year two
- × Further improving national consistency



How can I engage in the review?

There will be a number of opportunities for stakeholder engagement in this review, including through national forums, formal consultation periods and a broad representative Reference Group for targeted consultation. The AMC [website](#) will be regularly updated as the review progresses.

Further information about the review and opportunities to engage can be found [here](#).