



28 June 2019

AMC launches Reconciliation Action Plan

The Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan provides a framework for the AMC to strengthen its relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, influence health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and establish the best approach to advance reconciliation.

As an independent national standards body for medical education and training, the AMC has the opportunity through the standards for education, training and assessment of the medical profession to influence health outcomes for all Australians.

The AMC has developed accreditation standards that ensure medical education programs have learning outcomes for Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori health, including First Nations peoples' perspectives, and supporting targeted, evidence-based action.

Our Reconciliation Action Plan recognises that health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are inextricably linked to self-determination and that there is strong evidence of improvements in health outcomes when Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples take greater control over their health.

Professor Gregory Phillips, chair of AMC's Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Strategy Group spoke at the launch about the power of the AMC's Reconciliation Action Plan to 'drive change' and to 'improve the quality and strength of the work of the AMC by incorporating 60,000 years of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge to improve health outcomes for everyone'.

The AMC acknowledges that it has a responsibility to address the inequalities that relate to the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Since 2006 the AMC has worked to privilege the voice of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples by embedding the delivery of culturally responsive education and clinical care and services into its work. The AMC has been a global leader in including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health as part of its accreditation standards for medical education and training. This commitment is embedded in the strategic priorities outlined in the AMC Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028.

Professor Phillips went on to say that the AMC Reconciliation Action Plan provides the platform for empowerment for Aboriginal people to take their rightful place as leaders in critical debates for the whole country including about racism and public health issues. The Plan captures the commitment of the AMC to ensure a fair and truthful relationship with the people of Australia and a better future for Aboriginal people based on justice and self-determination.

AMC President, Professor David Ellwood, reiterated AMC's commitment to promote Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Health which is strongly supported in the AMC's Strategic Plan.

The AMC's Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan is available on its website at <http://www.amc.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/AMC-Innovate-RAP-2019-2021.pdf>

For further information:

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