

Expressions of interest (identified position): Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander member of the Australian Medical Council's Progress Reports Sub Committee

The Australian Medical Council (AMC) is a national standards body for medical education and training. Its purpose is to ensure that standards of education, training and assessment of the medical profession promote and protect the health of the Australian community.

The AMC is Australia's accreditation authority for the medical profession and works with the Medical Council of New Zealand on the accreditation of medical programs in New Zealand. It is committed to improving outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and Māori through its accreditation processes including equitable access to health services for First Nations peoples.

The Role

The AMC is seeking expressions of interest for membership of its Progress Reports Sub Committee from Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people with a range of backgrounds and experience, to bring their unique perspectives on Indigenous health to the Sub Committee.

This is an active role in monitoring accredited specialist medical programs and their providers against accreditation standards.

There is **one position available** for a member with:

- a strong understanding of the health issues and inequities faced by Indigenous Australians;
- knowledge or experience in health, training or education; and
- an understanding of the process, or proven capacity, to review and analyse reports and make determinations against accreditation standards.

This role is critical in ensuring the advice of this committee reflects the views of Indigenous peoples in its reporting to both the AMC Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Standing Committee (Indigenous Committee) and the AMC's Specialist Education Accreditation Committee.

Background Information

The AMC is committed to promoting Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Health by ensuring culturally safe practice to improve health outcomes. The AMC has been working to improve the health outcomes for Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Peoples for many years, and in 2018 this became a major Pillar of the AMC's [Strategic Plan](#).

The AMC's Indigenous Committee provides advice and recommendations to the Specialist Education Accreditation Committee and AMC Directors on important matters related to the accreditation of specialist medical programs.

Being the national accreditation authority for the medical profession, the AMC develops accreditation standards, assesses medical programs against the standards and monitors programs to ensure they continue to meet standards through regular progress reports. The voice and perspectives of Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori peoples on AMC accreditation committees is integral to ensuring these functions meet the needs of Australia's many Indigenous communities.

The AMC's Specialist Education Accreditation Committee manages the assessment and accreditation of specialist medical programs. Sixteen specialist medical colleges offer specialist medical training and education in 23 separate medical specialties and 54 fields of specialty practice. The AMC assess specialist international medical graduates seeking recognition as specialist practitioners and set standards for continuing professional development of medical specialists. The approved accreditation standards applied by the AMC cover these training, education and assessment functions.

The AMC monitors accredited programs and their education providers to ensure the AMC continues to be satisfied that the accreditation standards continue to be met. To meet this requirement, accredited providers submit regular progress reports addressing the accreditation standards, covering significant developments in their specialist medical programs, annual standard data and their response to any accreditation conditions.

Progress Reports Sub Committee

The Progress Reports Sub Committee assists the Specialist Education Accreditation Committee in monitoring accredited programs.

The Progress Reports Sub Committee includes members drawn from a variety of backgrounds: health departments/jurisdictions, medical education and training, clinicians, a doctor in training and a health consumer member. It also includes an identified position for:

- An Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander member
- A Māori member

Progress Reports Sub Committee Responsibilities:

- Reviews progress and comprehensive reports of specialist medical colleges against AMC accreditation standards and taking into account past accreditation reports.
- Reports to the Specialist Education Accreditation Committee on whether specialist medical colleges are progressing and satisfying conditions on accreditation.
- Provides advice to the Specialist Education Accreditation Committee on whether the accreditation standards continue to be met for each accredited specialist medical program.
- Raises areas of significant concern with the Specialist Education Accreditation Committee for further consideration.
- Provides advice on process improvements to the AMC monitoring processes.

Members of the Sub Committee are expected to have the ability and knowledge necessary to review and analyse progress reports to make determinations against accreditation standards, to lead reviews of progress reports during Sub Committee meetings and to share information and experiences constructively for program improvement.

Time Commitment

Members of AMC committees are appointed for four year terms.

The Sub Committee meets three to four times per year. Meetings will mainly occur via videoconference, with the potential for face to face meetings when travel restrictions lift.

The Sub Committee takes responsibility for in depth review of college progress reports, which contain considerable reading material. Significant time is involved in assessment of the documentation prior to each meeting.

Remuneration

The AMC pays fees to Progress Report Sub Committee members for:

- participation in meetings
- reading and assessing documentation prior to meetings
- reviewing progress reports

Superannuation is also paid for individual members as required under Superannuation Guarantee legislation.

The AMC does not pay for time responding to correspondence (e.g. emails) from AMC staff.

AMC support for the Progress Reports Sub Committee

The AMC

- provides support, induction and training for members;
- arranges and meets the cost of necessary accommodation and travel; and
- meets the cost of meals and incidental expenditure such as taxi fares.

AMC staff manage the reviews of progress reports and interactions with specialist colleges, provide advice on accreditation policy and procedures, synthesise the sub committee's findings and manage its reporting.

The AMC is committed to diversity in committee memberships, reflecting diverse skills and experiences, geographical locations and academic, clinical, professional and community expertise.

Expression of interest

Expressions of interest should be provided with current curriculum vitae by **Monday 15 March 2021**. The Search Committee expects to complete the review of applications and to make a recommendation by **early April 2021**.

Please address expressions of interest to Ms Theanne Walters AM, Deputy Chief Executive Officer and send to specaccred@amc.org.au

The AMC will treat the information provided confidentially and use it only to assist in shortlisting and appointment process.

For more information, please contact Karen Rocca, Manager, Accreditation Projects and Process Development, at the above email address or by phone at 02 6270 9760.

Diversity and inclusion are considered essential to the AMC's continued success.

The AMC values the diversity of thought and experience and believes that an inclusive and collaborative culture underpins the accreditation and assessment of medical education.

We celebrate and promote diversity as a significant strength in our organisation.