



1 September 2022

Dear stakeholder,

### **Review of the Accreditation Standards for Primary Medical Programs 2022**

The AMC is beginning a consultation on detailed proposals to update the Accreditation Standards for Primary Medical Programs.

In 2021, the AMC undertook a consultation on the scope of the review. We received over 50 written responses to this consultation. Responding stakeholders represented a broad range of important voices relevant to medical education and training, including medical programs, specialist medical colleges, prevocational training, health services, jurisdictions, professional organisations, quality and safety bodies, the higher education sector and Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori health peak body organisations, as well as individuals and groups representing students and staff in medical programs.

The consultation paper for the proposals for detailed changes outlines how the AMC has responded to these stakeholders' feedback and undertaken policy work to develop detailed proposals for change.

The AMC is committed to promoting Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori health by ensuring culturally safe practice to improve health outcomes. Stakeholders strongly supported increasing the emphasis on cultural safety and Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori health in the accreditation standards. Acknowledging the right to self-determination, the AMC proposed a shared sovereignty process for developing the standards in these areas. Stakeholders representing many different groups communicated their support for this process.

The AMC Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Committee established a Sub Group to lead development of cultural safety and Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori health content in the standards. The Sub Group sought input from Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori staff in medical schools through Yarning Circles and from Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori health peak bodies through targeted consultation. The AMC Standards Review Working Group provided detailed feedback on these draft proposals, which was considered iteratively by the Sub Group during development of the detailed proposals. The Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Committee reviewed and approved these proposals.

You will notice that some of the language of the cultural safety and Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori health related proposals look different to the others. This is because these proposals have been drafted by Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori people. The proposals now reflect their different voice.

As the chairs of the Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Standing Committee and Medical School Accreditation Committee overseeing this review, we support this positive process and the proposals that have resulted. As the AMC seeks to better reflect the views of our Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori stakeholders, we expect that the AMC will continue to commit to shared sovereignty and self-determination in our processes, with the aim of improved health outcomes for all First Nations Australians and New Zealanders.

The AMC is now seeking feedback from stakeholders on whether the detailed proposals achieve the aim of ensuring safe and competent medical graduates and whether further refinement is needed in these or other areas of the standards.

We would like to hear your perspectives on the proposals for detailed change. We will consider all the feedback we receive when shaping our next iteration of proposals for change.

If you or your organisation have any questions or are interested in organising an opportunity to discuss the review, please email the AMC review team at [standardsreview@amc.org.au](mailto:standardsreview@amc.org.au).

Yours sincerely



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