



## Communiqué

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29 March 2019

The Psychology Board of Australia (the Board) is established under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (National Law), as in force in each state and territory. At each meeting, the Board considers a wide range of issues, many of which are routine and are not included in this communiqué.

This communiqué highlights key issues from the 105th meeting of the Board on 29 March 2019.

### Annual report published

A profession-specific annual report summary that looks into the work of the Board over the year to 30 June 2018 has now been published.

The report draws on data from the [2017/18 annual report](#) by AHPRA and the National Boards. This information provides a snapshot of the profession as at 30 June 2018, and includes the number of applications for registration, outcomes of practitioner audits and segmentation of the registrant base by gender, age and principal place of practice.

Notifications information includes the number of complaints or concerns received, matters opened and closed during the year, types of complaint, monitoring and compliance and matters involving immediate action.

To download this report, or to view the main 2017/18 annual report, visit the [website](#).

### National Psychology Exam quality assurance project

We have completed a quality assurance project to improve the national psychology exam's reliability and use.

We introduced the exam in 2013 to ensure a consistent professional standard of psychologists who apply for general registration across the various non-accredited training pathways. The project evaluated the quality and functioning of the exam to ensure that it is fair, reliable, effective and fit-for-purpose. The project also aimed to identify any areas of the exam that should be improved.

We will publish a peer-reviewed journal article on the project results later in 2019. In the meantime, you can read a high-level overview of the results in our [news item](#).

### Joint consultation on the definition of cultural safety

AHPRA, National Boards and Accreditation Authorities in the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme have partnered with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health leaders and the National Health Leadership Forum (NHLF) to release [a six-week public consultation](#). Together, these entities are seeking feedback on a proposed definition of 'cultural safety' to develop an agreed, national baseline definition that can be used as a foundation for embedding cultural safety across all functions in the National Scheme and for use by the NHLF.

There are 44 organisations represented in this consultation, which is being coordinated by the [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Strategy Group \(Strategy Group\)](#), which is convened by AHPRA, and the NHLF. The consultation is a continuation of the work by the National Scheme's Strategy Group that has achieving health equity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as its overall goal.

The [consultation paper is published on the AHPRA website](#) and is open for six weeks **closing at 5pm on Wednesday 15 May 2019**. Please visit the website for further information about how to make a submission.

### **'Let's talk about it' videos launched**

AHPRA has [launched a series of new videos](#) to support the public and registered health practitioners as they go through the notification process.

The video series, called 'Let's talk about it', explains what happens when concerns are raised with the regulator, provides easy to follow information about the notifications process and addresses common questions, so consumers and health practitioners know what to expect when they interact with AHPRA and National Boards.

The videos are:

- [A notification has been made about me](#) features five health practitioners who work within the National Scheme, directed at health practitioners who have had a notification made about them.
- [I have a concern, am I in the right place?](#) is targeted at members of the public who have a concern but aren't yet sure whether AHPRA is the right place for them to raise it.
- [I have raised a concern with AHPRA](#) provides information for individuals who have just raised a concern with AHPRA.

### **Further information**

The Board publishes a range of information for psychologists on its website at [www.psychologyboard.gov.au](http://www.psychologyboard.gov.au). For more information about registration, notifications or other matters relevant to the National Scheme also refer to information published on [www.ahpra.gov.au](http://www.ahpra.gov.au) or send an [online enquiry form](#) or contact AHPRA on 1300 419 495.

Rachel Phillips  
Chair  
Psychology Board of Australia  
15 April 2019