

AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION ON SAFETY AND QUALITY IN HEALTH CARE

TRIM D19-2052

Fiona Stoker
Chief Executive Officer
Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council
GPO Box 400
Canberra ACT 2601

Fiona

Dear Ms Stoker

ANMAC standards review of Registered Nurse Accreditation Standards consultation

Thank you for your email of 15 January 2019 seeking feedback from the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (the Commission) on the final stage of the review of the Registered Nurse Accreditation Standards.

The Commission notes that the feedback synthesis from the first consultation included our recommendation to make explicit reference to the National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Standards.

The Commission recommends that the following proposed Registered Nurse Accreditation Standards also make explicit reference to the NSQHS Standards:

- 1.3a The education provider ensures that organisations in which students undertake profession experience placement have evidence-based quality and safety policies and processes that meet relevant jurisdictional requirements and standards
- 3.3c Program content and unit learning outcomes ensures recognition of safety and quality standards as they relate to healthcare.

In order for health services to meet the mandatory requirements of the NSQHS Standards, their health workforce must have the necessary skills and competencies. While many aspects of the NSQHS Standards relate to the governance, systems and processes in place within health service organisations, other aspects of the NSQHS Standards directly relate to the clinical care provided by health professionals. For example, several Clinical Care Standards are referenced in the NSQHS Standards, many of which have implications for nursing practice. The Standards, and the skills, competencies and behaviours that they require of the health workforce, should therefore be specifically referenced in any accreditation standards for health professional education.

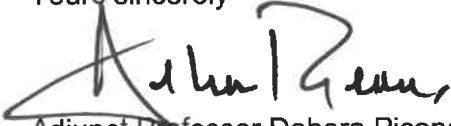
The Commission also recommends the NSQHS Standards be explicitly referenced in resources that will be developed to support the implementation of the Registered Nurse Accreditation Standards.

Furthermore, the Commission remains firmly of the view, as outlined in the letter dated 20 October 2017, that there is a common set of qualities, abilities, skills and required knowledge expected from high-quality health practitioners, including key competencies related to safety and quality and cultural safety and awareness. Better support for inter-professional learning for collaborative practice will occur when this set of common core competencies is described using common terminology across the health professions and when accreditation standards reference this common core set of competencies.

If you would like to discuss this response, please contact:

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Yours sincerely



Adjunct Professor Debora Picone AM

Chief Executive Officer

30 January 2019