



Australian Health Care Reform Working Group

Terms of Reference

Area of College	Policy & Advocacy
Document Writer	Senior P&A Officer, Health Reform
Document Owner	College Policy & Advocacy Council
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References/Legislation	<i>Corporations Act 2001 (Cth)</i>
Associated RACP Documents	Governance of College Body By-law, Appointments to College Bodies Policy, RACP Constitution
Applicability	Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand

Note: This is a controlled document within the [RACP Policy Framework](#). The Framework covers all RACP policies, procedures, by-laws, terms of reference, guidelines, forms and so forth. Any new documents or amendments of existing documents or changes to approve, owner or area of college should be done in accordance with the RACP Policy Framework and Document Control (RACP Policy Framework) Procedure.

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1. INTRODUCTION

These Terms of Reference are to be read in conjunction with the Governance of College Bodies By-law. Both the Governance of College Bodies By-law and these Terms of Reference govern the College Body.

1.1. Established

The Australian Health Care Reform Working Group is established under the authority of the College Policy & Advocacy Council (CPAC) to perform the Functions set out in these Terms of Reference and all matters ancillary to those functions.

1.2. Term

The term of this Australian Health Care Reform Working Group is for 3 years, with an option for CPAC to request an extension from the Board.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of Australian Health Care Reform Working Group is to provide thought leadership and advanced expertise to CPAC and other College bodies on health reform and service integration; and to lead the College's policy and advocacy work in this area as set out in the CPAC Plan 2022- 2026 and annual CPAC work plan.

3. FUNCTIONS

The functions of the Australian Health Care Reform Working Group are to:

- a) Understand the impacts and relevance for medical specialist practice of innovative and integrated models of healthcare and the drivers, barriers and enablers for implementation of these models of care
- b) Identify innovative and integrated models of practice that align with the College's values and principles, and better address unmet health needs of people with complex, chronic health needs or those who experience other issues such as socioeconomic adversity
- c) Understand how innovative models of healthcare might improve health outcomes, patient experience of healthcare and health equity
- d) Develop recommendations on systems, policies and innovations to drive interjurisdictional system reform and improve health outcomes
- e) Work collaboratively with States and Territories through the College's Regional Committees on relevant health reform and service integration issues, where States and Territories hold primary responsibility
- f) Liaise with the Aotearoa New Zealand Committee and Aotearoa New Zealand Policy and Advocacy Committee to foster collaboration and exchange of knowledge and expertise.

4. MEMBER COMPOSITION

The Membership of the College Body shall comprise up to 9 members, comprising:

4.1. Ex-officio Members

- One appointed consumer representative
- One appointed Indigenous representative from a health organisation such as the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation or the Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association.

4.2. Appointed Members

Up to 7 appointed College members appointed via an Expression of Interest process with expertise or interest in health reform and integration.

Member composition will aim to provide a balanced and equitable representation of members, considering gender balance, trainee and Indigenous representation, specialties, demographic and practice settings (i.e., private practice, hospital-based, community-based, etc).

4.3. Co-chairing arrangement

The Australian Health Care Reform Working Group is to be co-chaired by a College member and a consumer representative who have been appointed to the Australian Health Care Reform Working Group.

4.4. Co-opted members

Co-opted members may be appointed for a particular purpose or term.

5. MEETING

This section is to be read in conjunction with the Governance of College Bodies By-law.

5.1. Number of Meetings

The College Body shall hold a minimum of two meetings per calendar year and shall meet by teleconference or videoconference.

5.2. Chair

The Chair or their appointee will Chair all meetings.

5.3. Secretariat

The Working Group will be supported by a Senior Policy Officer from the Policy & Advocacy Team and other College staff as required.

This will include support for scheduling and preparation for meetings, supporting papers and taking notes and actions for meetings as well as additional research, policy and advocacy support as required.

6. REPORTING

The College Body must report and make recommendations to CPAC as required.

The College Body is required to provide to the Parent Body each year a report on approved activities.

7. DEFINITIONS

Term	Means
Board	The Board of Directors of The Royal Australasian College of Physicians
Working Group	The Australian Health Care Reform Working Group
College	The Royal Australasian College of Physicians, an incorporated body limited by guarantee ACN 000 039 047.
College Body	Has the same meaning as in the College Constitution
Conflict of Interest	Has the same meaning as the Governance of College Bodies By-law
Ex-officio	Has the same meaning as the Governance of College Bodies By-law
Member of a College Body	Has the same meaning as the Governance of College Bodies By-law
Member of the College	Has the same meaning as the Governance of College Bodies By-law
Parent Body	Has the same meaning as the Governance of College Bodies By-law

8. HISTORY

Commencement		
These Terms of Reference were approved by the [Insert Parent Body] and commenced on [Insert date]		
Revision	Effective Date	Summary of Changes
1.0	01/08/2022	Initial approval/New Document
2.0	02/02/2022	Revision due to CPAC approved membership increase
3.0	23/03/ 2023	Revision due to CPAC-approved co-chair arrangement
4.0	03/07/2023	Revision due to CPAC Council recommendation to amend the original name of the Health Reform Working Group to Australian Health Care Reform Working Group.