



COMMUNIQUÉ FROM THE ADVANCED PHARMACY PRACTICE FRAMEWORK STEERING COMMITTEE

The Advanced Pharmacy Practice Framework Steering Committee (APPFSC) met in late September and progressed several important initiatives.

- a. **Advanced practice recognition model.** Work to establish a recognition model for advanced pharmacy practice in Australia continues to make progress. The APPFSC asked the Recognition Model Working Group (a sub-group of the APPFSC) to convene a meeting in October to discuss further details. Planning is underway for several recommendations to be made to APPFSC Member organisations in the coming months. The APPFSC was also fortunate to be able to meet with Dr Catherine Duggan (Royal Pharmaceutical Society) and Prof Ian Bates (University of London) and hear about their work on advanced pharmacy practice recognition in the UK.
- b. **Review of customised tool of entry-level competencies.** A survey was released in August 2013 regarding a review of the customised tool of entry-level competency standards. The APPFSC wished to acknowledge and thank those who had already provided feedback. While numbers were not high, the responses to date did not suggest a fundamental change to the tool. Given the review of the profession's full set of competency standards is scheduled to commence in 2014, the APPFSC considered that a concurrent review of the customised entry-level tool was appropriate. In response to several requests to the Secretariat, the survey will remain open until further notice. Feedback on the customised tool would be greatly appreciated and will help inform future design and use of the tool. The survey can be accessed at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DDBWRSV>.
- c. **Vaccination by pharmacists.** In response to a request from the Pharmacy Board of Australia in May this year, the APPFSC has undertaken work on the administration of vaccines by pharmacists. While it was agreed that vaccination by pharmacists does not constitute advanced level practice, the expansion to pharmacists' current scope of practice required consideration of the profession's competency standards and therefore the work was regarded as being within scope for the APPFSC. The mapping of pharmacists' competencies to those of nurse immunisers was completed by the Vaccination Working Group (a sub-group of the APPFSC) and finalisation of this work to make a submission to the Pharmacy Board of Australia was authorised by the APPFSC with the support of constituent organisations.
- d. **Web site on advanced pharmacy practice.** A new web site where the Advanced Pharmacy Practice Framework and other related documents are consolidated and made available is being developed. The APPFSC will provide advice in the future when the web site is launched.
- e. **Report on advanced and extended pharmacy practice.** The APPFSC noted the recent release of the Australian Pharmacy Council report entitled *Advanced and extended pharmacy practice: an environmental snapshot* and commended the report. The document is available on the Council's web site at www.pharmacycouncil.org.au.
- f. **Manuscripts.** The APPFSC operates on behalf of the pharmacy profession and is committed to publicising the work it undertakes. To this end, several manuscripts are being prepared with a view to submitting these in the near future for consideration of publication in appropriate journals.

The APPFSC is scheduled to next meet in November 2013.

Shane Jackson, Chair APPFSC
29 October 2013