

Communiqué

Meeting of the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia held on 26 August 2016 at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre.

The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (the National Board or NMBA) is the national regulator for nursing and midwifery in Australia. It is established under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory ([the National Law](#)).

The NMBA meets monthly and considers a range of matters, the most important of which are published in this Communiqué.

Health Profession Agreement 2016-2020

The NMBA has signed a Health Profession Agreement with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) for a period of four years. This agreement outlines the different and complementary functions of the two organisations in their partnership to protect the public.

Annual audit for nurses and midwives

The NMBA, with the support of AHPRA, will soon commence its annual audit of nurses and midwives. This audit is undertaken in the interest of protecting the public by ensuring that nurses and midwives are meeting their professional and registration standards.

Response to the Coroner Court of Victoria

On 24 March 2016 the Victorian coroner, in his findings about the death of Caroline Lovell, made recommendations to the NMBA and AHPRA. The NMBA and AHPRA have provided a response to the Coroners Court of Victoria's recommendations which is published on the [Coroners Court of Victoria website](#).

National Registration and Accreditation Scheme Conference and Research Summit

The 2016 Research Summit, hosted by the 14 National Boards and AHPRA, was attended by more than 220 delegates who gathered together to talk about the next frontier for developing our partnership's evidence-base to improve the way we regulate.

The theme of the summit was '*patient safety through risk-based regulation*', and presenters discussed a range of topics. At the heart of the discussion was how to contribute to safer care for patients and health consumers. Also discussed was how data collection and evaluation can help find new and innovative ways to improve regulatory processes for health practitioners and the public.

The inaugural summit provided an opportunity for the exchange of expertise and ideas between regulatory staff, experts in safety and quality in healthcare, health practitioners and leading health and medical researchers.

Read more in the [media release](#) about the summit which was held on 25 August.

Coming soon for nurses and midwives – new monthly e-newsletter

The NMBA will be introducing a new monthly e-newsletter for nurses and midwives soon. Monthly e-newsletters will allow the NMBA to provide more relevant and timely updates for nurses and midwives across Australia.

Approved programs of study leading to registration and endorsement

The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia has considered the following programs of study in August 2016

The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia has approved full accreditation of the following midwifery programs for five years:

Education Provider	Program	Campus
Charles Darwin University	Bachelor of Midwifery	Darwin and Alice Springs – Northern Territory Melbourne – Victoria
Federation University Australia	Graduate Diploma of Midwifery	Churchill and Mount Helen – Victoria

The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia has approved the following programs to move into 'inactive' in the list of approved programs of study (these programs are no longer approved for new enrolments):

Education Provider	Program/s
Charles Darwin University	Bachelor of Midwifery
Federation University Australia	Graduate Diploma of Midwifery (for site – Gippsland, VIC)
Federation University Australia	Graduate Diploma of Midwifery (for sites – Mt Helen, Ballarat, VIC)
Healthcare Training Australia	Diploma of Nursing
ACT Health	Registered Nurse Refresher Program
ACT Health	Overseas Qualified Nurse Program

An [on-line search](#) is available for all approved programs of study leading to registration and endorsement as an enrolled nurse (EN), registered nurse (RN) and/or midwife. You can also search for approved programs of study leading to endorsements for RNs and midwives.

**Dr Lynette Cusack, Registered Nurse
Chair, Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia**

For more information

- Keep up to date with regular news and updates on the National Board website www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au
- Visit www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au under *Contact Us* to lodge an online enquiry form

- For registration enquiries: 1300 419 495 (within Australia) +61 3 9275 9009 (overseas callers)
- For media enquiries: (03) 8708 9200