



# WHO Collaboration Centre for Health Workforce Regulation

Presentation date and venue

# About Ahpra

- We work in partnership with 15 National Boards to regulate over 800,000 health practitioners (including 42,000 registered psychologists). We do this to ensure the community has access to a safe health workforce.
- Ahpra publishes a national *Register of practitioners* so that important information about individual health practitioners is available to the public: [www.ahpra.gov.au/registration/registers-of-practitioners](http://www.ahpra.gov.au/registration/registers-of-practitioners).

# Ahpra has five core regulatory functions

## Professional standards

- Provide policy advice to the National Boards about registration standards, codes and guidelines for health practitioners.

## Registration

- In partnership with the National Boards, we ensure that only health practitioners with the skills and qualifications to provide competent and ethical care are registered to practise.

## Notifications

- Manage complaints and concerns raised about the health, performance and conduct of individual health practitioners.

## Compliance

- Monitor and audit registered health practitioners to make sure they are complying with Board requirements.

## Accreditation

- Work with accreditation authorities and committees to ensure graduating students are suitably qualified and skilled to apply to register as a health practitioner.

# Background



Global strategy on  
human resources  
for health:  
**Workforce 2030**

# Key points

- Ensure equitable access to health workers within strengthened health systems
- Strong emphasis on safety, quality and capacity of institutions

**33. Governments to collaborate with professional councils and other regulatory authorities to adopt regulation<sup>3</sup>** that takes into account transparency, accountability, proportionality, consistency, and that is targeted to the population's needs. Advancing this agenda requires strengthening the capacity of regulatory and accreditation authorities. Regulatory bodies should play a central role in ensuring that public and private sector professionals are competent, sufficiently experienced and adhere to agreed standards relative to the scope of practice and competencies required to regulate

# What we know about regulating health practitioners globally

Variability in

- Why practitioners are regulated
- Who is regulated
- What standards practitioners must meet
- How assurance is provided that standards are met
- Options for regulatory action to protect the public
- Capacity of regulators

# WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Workforce Regulation

1. Adopt contemporary regulatory approaches to regulating health practitioners
2. Provide technical support to strengthen regulatory systems
3. Strengthen the skills and capacity of regulators

# How?



- Network of regulators in the Western Pacific Region
- Provide advice, expertise and consultancy when we are requested
- Help upskill regulators



# What do we see in the Western Pacific?

- Pandemic impacts hindered opportunities
- Variable interest from member states in allied health professions, including psychology.
- Post pandemic status seem to highlight
  - Refocussed attention on workforce supply and access issues
  - Return to globalised mobility of the workforce
  - Some continuing issues:
    - Increased safety and quality expectations of consumers and communities

# Contact us

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