

## NSW Code of conduct focus groups

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The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra) is Australia's health practitioner regulator. Keeping the public safe is our number one priority. We work in partnership with [15 National Boards](#) to protect the public and make sure the community has access to a safe health workforce. You can [read more about our work on the Ahpra website](#).

We rely on members of the community, health practitioners, students, employers, co-regulators, educators and many others to engage, and work with them, as we regulate more than 744,000 registered health practitioners across Australia.

NSW is a co-regulatory jurisdiction. This means that complaints about health practitioners and providers are managed by the Health Care Complaints Commission (HCCC) in partnership with the Health Professional Councils Authority (HPCA). Ahpra and National Boards are responsible for registering and setting standards for health practitioners in NSW.

***Are you a health consumer who has an interest in the professional standards that health practitioners need to meet when they look after their patients?***

***Would you like to help Ahpra and National Boards make the code easier to understand and better able to protect the public?***

**Expressions of Interest** are being sought to attend a virtual, NSW focus group/consultation session on the shared Code of conduct for health practitioners.

Two sessions via Zoom are available:

**Monday 28 June 2021 4:00pm – 5:00pm, or**

**Tuesday 29 June 2021 4:00pm – 5:00pm**

Places are limited and registration is required via <https://www.hcnsw.org.au/ahpra-coc/>, noting a meeting invitation and Zoom link will be sent to you separately and before the event.

You are invited to participate in a small focus group organised by Ahpra and National Boards with the support of Health Consumers New South Wales on either of the above dates. To ensure we hear a diverse range of views, we are looking to hear from consumers only in this focus group, as we have spoken to health practitioners in other focus groups. If you are a health practitioner who would like to give feedback on the

code, please visit the <https://www.ahpra.gov.au/News/Consultations.aspx> for information about making a submission.

Each focus group has a limit of 10 participants.

We will ask questions to help inform a proposed revised **shared Code of Conduct** (the code) for professions including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice, Chinese medicine, chiropractic, dental, medical radiation practice, occupational therapy, optometry, osteopathy, paramedicine, pharmacy, physiotherapy and podiatry.

You won't need to do any preparation for the focus group. However, you are welcome to review the consultation paper and supporting documents on the <https://www.ahpra.gov.au/News/Consultations.aspx> if you would like. The code has been written for health practitioners and Ahpra are keen to hear from you how it could be more accessible to the public.

Key questions Ahpra would like to discuss in this focus group include:

- whether you know about the *Code of conduct* for health practitioners
- what kind of information you might consider looking for in the code
- how Ahpra and National Boards can help make the code a more useful document for patients, carers and the broader community, and
- how Ahpra and National Boards can help people in the community learn about the code.

If you have any questions, please contact Sue.Lush-Saunders@ahpra.gov.au