



Australian Medical
Council Limited

Shared stories, stronger standards

AIDA 2025 Conference

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Shared stories, stronger standards

- 01 Review of the standards for Primary Medical Programs
- 02 Recognising the need for cultural safety
- 03 Embedding cultural safety in policy
- 04 Review of the standards for Specialist Medical Programs
- 05 Where we're going next

Review of the standards for Primary Medical Programs

- Revised standards for primary medical programs were **implemented in 2024**
- Represent a view on minimum quality, identified through extensive consultation over 2yrs+ across Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand
- Priority areas:
 - **Cultural safety**
 - **Community accountability and engagement**
 - Transition to practice
 - Student wellbeing
- Assessed by a team of 6-8 triangulating information from the provider's written submission, and meetings during a week-long site visit (relevant staff, students, stakeholders, clinical and community partners)

Recognising the need for cultural safety



Indigenous staff members

- Before an Indigenous staff member was part of our team, there were blind spots in our understanding of cultural safety.
- Practices that were once considered "business as usual" were not always safe or culturally appropriate.
- Now, we work together as a team to address these issues and ensure cultural safety in all our processes.
- Indigenous AMC staff provide a sense of cultural support for our Indigenous assessors, particularly for those who are new to the team.



Recognising the need for cultural safety



Assessors/Team members

- Gradual progress in how our new assessors interact with the process.
- More likely to speak up about inconsistencies or challenges during accreditation visits.
- This improvement is the result of a team effort where everyone feels valued, and cultural perspectives are acknowledged and respected.



Embedding cultural safety in policy

Policy

- Our new framework will ensure that cultural protocol is followed consistently on all visits moving forward.
- Our goal is to create a future where cultural safety is not just a policy, but a living practice in everything we do.

Moving forward

- Long-term commitment to cultural safety in our work.
- Ensuring that future visits are safer and more culturally sensitive.
- This work is ongoing, and it's about creating lasting change that will outlast any one individual.

Other initiatives



Culturally safe spaces



Cultural safety training

Reflections

As a team, we've learned to embrace vulnerability — acknowledging when we didn't know something.

By staying open and willing to learn, we create a space where "we didn't know that" becomes an opportunity for growth.

This vulnerability helps us build a stronger, more culturally aware environment.



Review of the standards for Specialist Medical Programs

- Currently in the process of revising standards for specialist medical programs
- We have been engaging extensively over the last 18 months across Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand
- Key aims:
 1. Education and training programs responsive to community needs
 2. Promoting and protecting high quality training that supports trainee and supervisor wellbeing
 - Also reviewing the AMC's model and cycle of accreditation as part of this process

Co-design and shared decision making

Work related to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and Māori health and cultural safety, is led by Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and Māori people

Review began with Yarning sessions

AMC Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and Māori Committee Sub Group - chaired by Associate Professor Artiene Tatian

Targeted consultations throughout the process

Where we're going

Standards

Greater emphasis on:

- Alignment with community needs and consumer/community engagement
- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and Māori health and cultural safety
- Rural and regional training opportunities
- Trainee wellbeing and supervisor support

Other work

- Development of common non-specialty specific outcome statements
- Investigating the development of a standardised curriculum templating or renewal process
- Reviewing the model and cycle of AMC accreditation

AMC model and cycle of accreditation

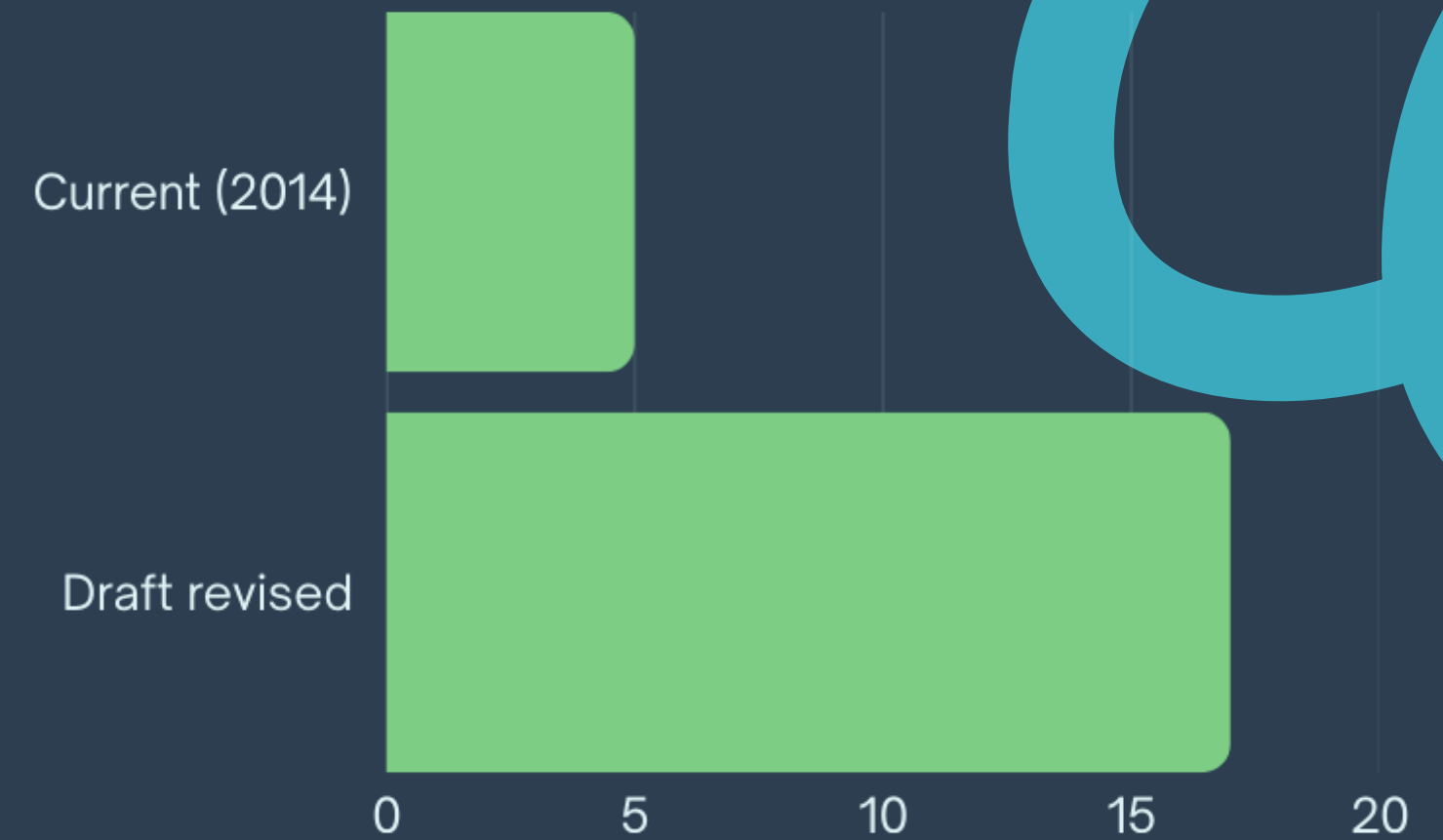
- All standards looked at, at the same time. Monitoring focuses on significant changes and outstanding conditions.
- Looking at how we run our processes based on lessons learned
- As part of this review, considering a more thematic approach to:
 - Encourage forward planning and investment in particular areas of need
 - Encourage increased collaboration between colleges, and relevant stakeholder organisations

Making space

Primary Medical Programs



Specialist Medical Programs



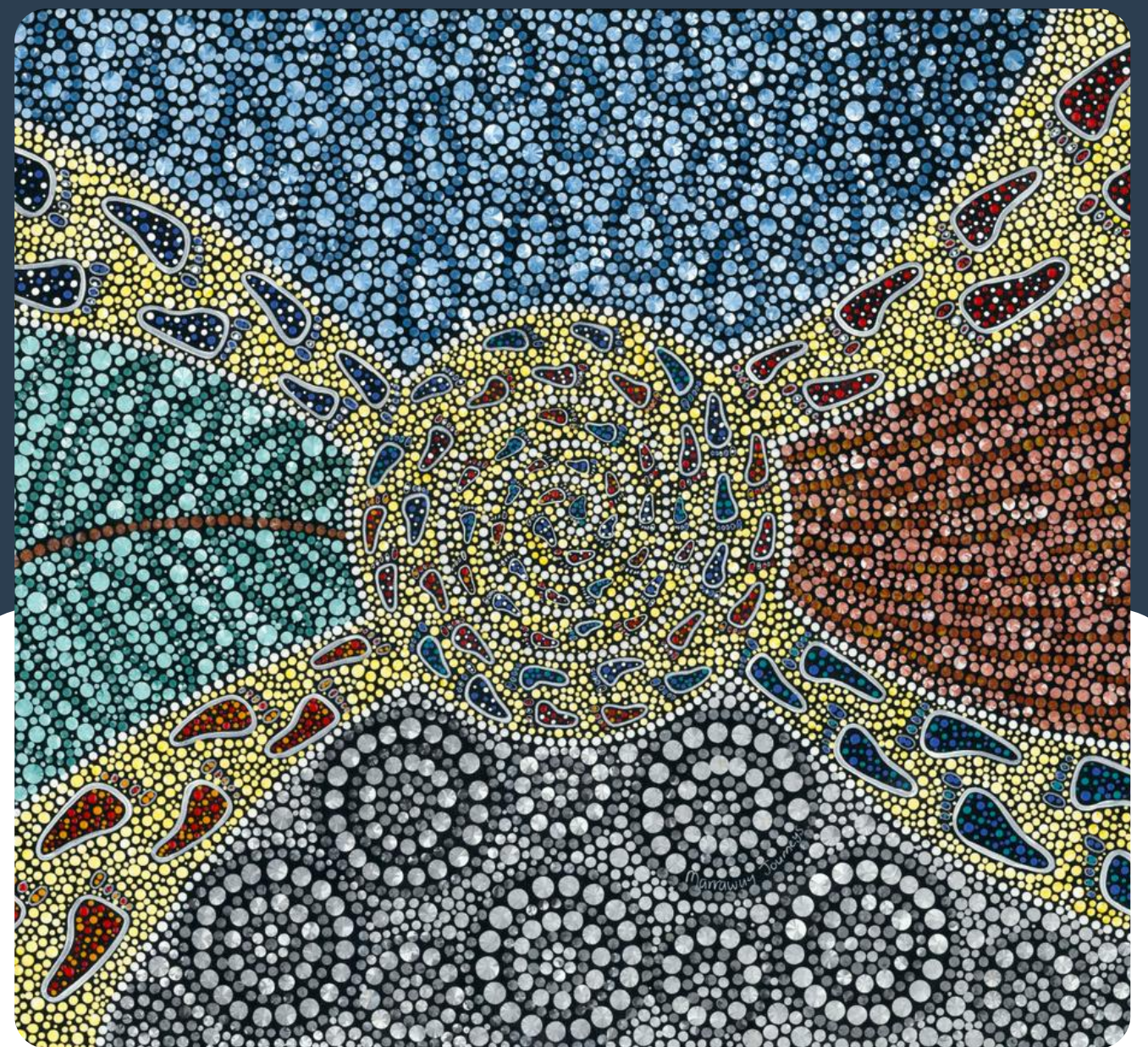
Standards specific to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and Māori health and cultural safety across the standards

We will be going out for public consultation on the drafted revised standards for Specialist Medical Programs in early 2026



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Please reach out





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**Thank you for
listening!**

