



Australian Government
Department of Health

**Diagnostic Imaging
Accreditation
Scheme**

Diagnostic Imaging Accreditation Scheme Advisory Committee

Stakeholder Engagement Plan 2019 – 22

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Document version history

<i>Version number</i>	<i>Summary of changes</i>	<i>Cleared by</i>	<i>Date</i>
1.0	<i>Initiation of Stakeholder Engagement Plan</i>	<i>Diagnostic Imaging Accreditation Scheme Advisory Committee</i>	<i>7 June 2017</i>
1.1	<i>Stakeholder Engagement Plan reviewed. Key Stakeholders updated to incorporate additional medical craft groups which are affected by the operation of the DIAS.</i>	<i>Diagnostic Imaging Accreditation Scheme Advisory Committee.</i>	<i>31 October 2019</i>

Purpose

The purpose of this Stakeholder Engagement Plan (the Plan) is to set a framework for how the outcomes from meetings and decisions of the Diagnostic Imaging Accreditation Scheme (DIAS) Advisory Committee (the Committee) will be communicated to the broader diagnostic imaging industry, and other interested stakeholders. The Plan demonstrates the approach of the Committee towards involving stakeholders in the planning, designing, undertaking and evaluation of recommendations regarding the DIAS.

Aim

The Committee provides assistance and advice to the Department of Health (the Department) on the development of policy and standards relating to the DIAS, implementation arrangements and conformity assessment, and associated regulation impacts.

The role of the DIAS is to ensure that diagnostic imaging services funded under Medicare are safe, effective and responsive to the needs of health care consumers and provided by practices which meet specified quality standards.

Establishment of the Committee

The Committee was established in July 2016 and comprises individuals with expertise in diagnostic imaging policy, practice, standards development and accreditation, health administration, and health consumer advocacy. Nominees were sought from key professional, industry (including representation from public and private health sectors) and consumer representative groups.

Members of the Committee bring with them a wide range of experience in the delivery of diagnostic imaging services, including practice management and administration, as well as the implementation of safety and quality frameworks in health care; and consumer advocacy.

The Department facilitates the work of the Committee by providing secretariat support and the delivery of their stakeholder engagement strategies.

Key Responsibilities of the Committee

The Committee's key responsibilities include

- providing interpretative advice on existing standards
- developing, in consultation with the Department, a process for developing, reviewing and maintaining standards
- reviewing and revising existing standards
- providing advice on aligning the DIAS with other relevant accreditation programs to avoid duplication
- developing new standards in response to new government policy, emerging patient safety risks, non-compliance issues or patient complaints
- recommending revised implementation arrangements under the DIAS, including consideration of arrangements for conformity assessments
- providing advice on the administration of the DIAS

Approach to Stakeholder Engagement

The Committee's approach to stakeholder engagement has been informed by the Department's Stakeholder Engagement Framework.

The Committee, facilitated by the Department, will work with stakeholders to build goodwill and partnerships, and create a shared understanding that will support the delivery of key responsibilities. Together, the Committee and the Department, will inform, consult, and involve stakeholders through a range of communication strategies and mechanisms, and in doing so will:

- share information, seek input and build collaborative relationships
- be timely in the provision of information to stakeholders who come into contact with the DIAS
- effectively use information networks to reduce duplication of activity and support access to the DIAS
- ensure effective communication which supports and encourages stakeholders to provide ideas, options and issues that relate to the DIAS
- ensure that engagement is timely and provides opportunities for stakeholders to contribute to the achievement of outcomes
- promote an environment that supports the establishment of partnerships and the provision of feedback and input from stakeholder organisations and individuals

- work across relevant Government agencies, and
- monitor and be responsive to Government changes, involving stakeholders in these changes whenever and wherever possible.

Communication Strategies and Mechanisms

- The Committee, facilitated by the Department, will engage with stakeholders to disseminate information about the work of the Committee, and to seek feedback and advice. Together, the Committee and the Department will utilise a range of communication strategies and mechanisms to support stakeholders to contribute to the development of recommendations about the DIAS.
- The following table provides guidance on the various levels of engagement the Committee will utilise, and the commitment to stakeholders for opportunities to engage with the work of the Committee.

Table 1: Methods of stakeholder engagement

Intent	Inform	Consult	Involve	Collaborate
Outcome	To inform or educate stakeholders	To gain information and feedback from stakeholders to inform decisions.	To work directly with stakeholders throughout the process to ensure that issues and concerns are understood and considered.	To partner with stakeholder and/or stakeholder groups for the development of mutually agreed solutions and joint plans of action.
Commitment	To keep you informed	To keep you informed, listen to your concerns, consider your insights, and provide feedback on our decisions	To work with you so that your concerns and issues are directly reflected in alternatives developed and provide feedback on how input influenced the outcome	To work together to agree on what we will implement and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the outcomes to the maximum extent possible

Intent	Inform	Consult	Involve	Collaborate
Methods of engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email • Letters • Internet/web updates (including Advisory Statements or similar regarding decisions of the Committee) • Newsletters • Meeting communiqués • Presentations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation papers • Surveys • One on one meetings • Workshops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops • Register of experts • Subject specific working groups (drawn from within the Committee and the Register of Experts) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnering with state and territory health departments, peak bodies and professional bodies to implement recommendations

Note: To engage with stakeholders, a mixture of strategies and mechanisms may be utilised by the Committee.

Key Stakeholders

- Australasian Association of Nuclear Medicine Specialists (AANMS)
- Australasian College of Phlebology (ACP)
- Australasian College of Physical Scientists & Engineers in Medicine (ACPSEM)
- Australian and New Zealand Society of Nuclear Medicine (ANZSNM)
- Australian and New Zealand Society for Vascular Surgery (ANZSVS)
- Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM)
- Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Healthcare (ACSQHC)
- Australian Dental Association (ADA)
- Australian Diagnostic Imaging Association (ADIA)
- Australian Society of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy (ASMIRT)
- Australian Medical Association (AMA)
- Australian Orthopaedic Association (AOA)
- Australian Private Hospital Association (APHA)
- Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA)

- Australasian Society for Ultrasound in Medicine (ASUM)
- Australian Society of Anaesthetists (ASA)
- Australasian Sonographer's Association (ASA)
- Australian Society of Orthopaedic Surgeons (ASOS)
- Cardiac Society of Australia & New Zealand (CSANZ)
- Catholic Health Australia (CHA)
- Chiropractors' Association Australia (CAA)
- Consumer Health Forum (CHF)
- Department of Human Services (DHS)
- Diagnostic Imaging Advisory Committee (DIAC)
- Diagnostic Imaging and Monitoring Association (DIMA)
- Healius Limited
- Health and Disability Auditing Australia (HDAA)
- I-Med Network
- Medical Imaging Nurses Association (MINA)
- National Association of Testing Authorities Australia (NATA)
- Practices providing diagnostic imaging services
- Quality Innovation Performance (QIP)
- Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP)
- Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS)
- Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG)
- Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (RANZCR)
- Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RAGCP)
- Rural Alliance for Nuclear Scintigraphy (RAINS)
- Sonic Imaging
- State and Territory Health Departments
- Urological Society Of Australia and New Zealand (USANZ)

Key Engagement Activities

Deliverable	Stakeholder engagement activities	Timeframe
Identifying and progressing opportunities for reform of the DIAS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation on proposed DIAS reform activities 	Ongoing
Releasing online newsletters (summaries of the key outcomes of Committee meetings) with advice about the work of the Committee.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informing stakeholders on the work of the Committee • Advice regarding proposed DIAS reform activities (including upcoming consultation) 	Either July or December each year, with additional newsletters as required.
Developing and publishing online Advisory Statements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informing stakeholders on decisions made by the Committee which impact on the DIAS and associated Standards 	As required
Form working groups for subject-specific issues and standards development and review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation on proposed DIAS reform activities • Involving stakeholders on decisions relating to the DIAS • Collaborate with stakeholders for mutually agreed solutions. 	As required
Communicate outcomes of Committee meetings with DIAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informing diagnostic imaging stakeholders on the work of the Committee • Informing stakeholders about proposed DIAS reform activities and upcoming consultation 	Twice annually at DIAC meetings.

Note - This table may be updated to accommodate decisions of Government.

Evaluation

This stakeholder engagement plan will be evaluated in July 2022, and the Committee will seek to evaluate engagement activities as they are undertaken with a view to incorporating any findings into future stakeholder engagement plans.

The outcomes and findings of the evaluation will inform future stakeholder engagement plans and consultation and communication strategies.