



## **COMMUNIQUÉ FROM THE ADVANCED PHARMACY PRACTICE FRAMEWORK STEERING COMMITTEE**

The Advanced Pharmacy Practice Framework Steering Committee is a profession-wide collaborative forum established to progress tasks and initiatives associated with the national competency standards for pharmacists.

The Advanced Pharmacy Practice Framework Steering Committee (APPFSC) met in late June and discussed several important initiatives. The Committee is pleased to report progress on the following.

- a. **Advanced pharmacy practice survey.** Analysis of the outcomes of the advanced pharmacy practice survey has been completed and a manuscript is being prepared for publication. The Committee recognised that work it undertakes on behalf of the pharmacy profession should reside in the public domain. Further publications describing the outcomes of this significant piece of work are planned.
- b. **Review of customised tool of entry-level competencies.** As flagged recently, the Committee has commenced a review of the customised tool of entry-level competency standards. Feedback will initially be sought primarily from pharmacy schools and intern training program providers on the usefulness and usability of the tool.
- c. **Recognition model.** The APPFSC is progressing its next stage of work to establish an advanced pharmacy practice recognition model. Further developmental work is being undertaken by a working group with a view to making recommendations to Member organisations in the coming months.
- d. **Vaccination by pharmacists.** The Pharmacy Board of Australia recently requested the APPFSC to develop a framework for recognition of the role of the pharmacist in administering vaccinations. The Board indicated they had regard for the experience of this Committee in progressing competency standards-related tasks on behalf of the pharmacy profession in a collaborative and outcomes-focussed manner. The APPFSC agreed that vaccination (administration) by pharmacists would constitute an extension of current scope of practice but does not require advanced level practice. Work has commenced by the APPFSC to progress this initiative including a mapping of Australian pharmacists' competencies to those of other authorised immunisers.

The Steering Committee is scheduled to next meet in late September 2013.

Shane Jackson  
Chair APPFSC  
12 August 2013