



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) is pleased to release a framework on advanced pharmacy practice for Australian pharmacists following its endorsement by the Pharmacy Board of Australia.

The development of this framework was achieved through a collaborative partnership of the ten pharmacy organisations represented on the Steering Committee. Many individual pharmacists also provided important feedback during the consultation phase. The project took into account other relevant national and international initiatives including work by the United Kingdom Competency Development and Evaluation Group, Royal Pharmaceutical Society, Pharmacy Council of New Zealand and pharmacists in the Australian hospital sector.

The definition of advanced practice previously adopted by the APPFSC and endorsed by all participating pharmacy organisations is as follows.

Advanced practice is practice that is so significantly different from that achieved at initial registration that it warrants recognition by professional peers and the public of the expertise of the practitioner and the education, training and experience from which that capability was derived.

The primary purpose of the advanced pharmacy practice framework is to support and assist the professional development and growth of pharmacists and of the profession as a whole. The organisations represented on the APPFSC are also strongly committed to pursuing formal recognition for those pharmacists demonstrated to be working at an advanced level and the framework will be used to underpin these efforts.

The Committee intends to continue to work on the implementation of the advanced pharmacy practice framework in 2013 which may include:

- articulation of areas or types of practice where pharmacists are to be recognised as practising at an advanced level;
- assessment of the risks and economic benefits to the public interest for the potential endorsement of specific areas of advanced pharmacy practice; and
- development of a possible recognition pathway for advanced pharmacy practice with rigorous standards and transparent processes.

The advanced pharmacy practice framework is available at: www.psa.org.au/archives/7131

Shane Jackson
Chair APPFSC
9 November 2012