



**Medical
Radiation
Practice
Council**
of NSW

Medical Radiation Practice Council of NSW

Annual Report 2017-18

President's Message



**Medical
Radiation
Practice
Council**
of NSW

I am pleased to submit the Medical Radiation Practice Council of New South Wales (Council) Annual Report for 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018.

The Council continues to review the activity of complaints, monitoring, hearings and assessments. Medical radiation practitioner complaints remain at a relatively low volume.

The past financial year has seen a number of achievements for the Council that I would like to highlight:

- Review of our financial statements has enabled a further reduction in fees in 2018 for NSW Medical Radiation Practice registrants. Council regulates one third of the medical radiation practitioner members within Australia.
- The Council continues its collaborative inter-council research and education and liaison with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency and other regulatory bodies to achieve the requirements of National registration.
- Strategic priorities for 2018/19 have been set around further educative events with universities and professional associations. This aims to increase knowledge at a provisional and general registration level relating to registrants' responsibilities in New South Wales.

I would like to thank and acknowledge the significant contribution of Sheryl Foster and Hugh Macken over the last six years as they conclude their time on the Council. Sheryl has been a key diagnostic radiographer practitioner member of the Council and her considered advice has assisted the Council greatly in its decision making process. Hugh's extensive legal knowledge and experience has made his contribution as a community member invaluable.

Council will be assisted in the future by the appointment of Nadine Thompson as a diagnostic radiographer practitioner member of the Council, and Greg Ross as a legal community member effective 1 July 2018 for a three year term. I would like to extend a warm welcome to Nadine and Greg and look forward to a productive year in 2019. I congratulate Karen Jovanovic on her reappointment as Deputy President and Warren Stretton as a continuing community member.

On behalf of the Council, I would like to thank the Health Professional Councils Authority for its productive support throughout the year. The Council's co-regulatory work with the Health Care Complaints Commission continues to be collaborative and the Council looks forward to another year working together.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tracy Vitucci', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Ms Tracy Vitucci

President

Medical Radiation Practice Council of New South Wales

Regulation of Medical Radiation practitioners in 2017/18

SNAPSHOT



Practitioner information

5,413

medical radiation practitioners registered in NSW

3.8% more than last year

33.3% of registered medical radiation practitioners in Australia

12

NSW medical radiation practitioners had complaints made about them

12 less than last year

0.2% of registered medical radiation practitioners in NSW



Complaints received

12

new complaints were received

17 less than last year

0 complaints were mandatory notifications

33.3% of complaints were about clinical care (n 4) followed by:

- National Law breach – 3 complaints
- communication and health impairment – 2 complaints each
- Confidentiality – 1 complaint

58.3%

of complaints were from patients (n 7) followed by:

- AHPRA – 3 complaints
- education providers and self notification – 1 complaint each



Complaints managed

8

complaints were managed directly by the Council

4 less than last year

5

assessments and hearings were concluded

1 more than last year

0

immediate actions were considered or taken by Council

3 less than last year

1

outcome for closed complaints involved cancelled or suspended registration

2 involved conditions on practice

0 involved counselling or interview



Practitioners monitored

2

cases were being actively monitored at year end

0 conduct

0 performance

2 health

Stakeholder Engagement

In March 2018 the President and Deputy President of the Council attended the Australian Society of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy (ASMIRT) Conference. The conference allowed for stakeholder engagement through the conference and exhibitions. The Council established a booth at the conference and provided in-person information to the profession and general public about the Council's role in the protection of public health and safety.

Council Members

Six members sit on the Medical Radiation Practice Council as prescribed by the National Law.

Registered Medical Radiation practitioner members:

- Ms Tracy Vitucci MBA, MHSM, B App Sc (MedImaging), DMU, Grad Dip Ultrason, FIR, AF, ACHSM
- Dr Karen Jovanovic HScD, MMedSc, Grad Dip Clin Epid, DCR (T)
- Ms Sheryl Foster MHSC (MRS)
- Ms Justine Trpezanovski MPH, MHM, B App Sc – MRS(Nuc Med)

Legal member:

- Mr Hugh Macken BA, LLB, LLM

Community members:

- Mr Warren Stretton FAICD, FCPA, FCIS, FGIA, FTI, FAMI, CPM

The NSW Governor appointed Ms Tracy Vitucci as the President and Dr Karen Jovanovic as the Deputy President of the Medical Radiation Practice Council.

Executive Officer

Ms Asha Mears is the current Executive Officer for the Medical Radiation Practice Council. Ms Myra Nikolich was the previous Executive Officer during the year and her work is acknowledged with thanks and appreciation. The Executive Officer leads a team that works directly with the Council as part of the Combined Councils Team.

All staff working both directly and indirectly with the Council are employed by the HPCA as an executive agency of the Ministry of Health. Councils cannot employ staff under the National Law.

Council Meeting Attendance

The Medical Radiation Practice Council met 10 times.

Table i: Member attendance at Council meetings, eligibility to attend and term of office

Member	Meetings Attended	Meetings Eligible to Attend	Date of first appointment	Current Term of Office
Ms Tracy Vitucci - President	9	10	1 July 2012	1 July 2015 – 30 June 2018
Dr Karen Jovanovic – Deputy President	10	10	1 July 2012	1 July 2015 – 30 June 2018
Ms Sheryl Foster	9	10	1 July 2012	1 July 2015 – 30 June 2018
Ms Justine Trpezanovski	9	10	1 July 2017	1 July 2017 – 30 June 2018
Mr Hugh Macken	8	10	1 July 2012	1 July 2015 – 30 June 2018
Mr Warren Stretton	10	10	1 July 2012	1 July 2015 – 30 June 2018

Council members are appointed for a term up to three years and may be reappointed up to a maximum of nine years.

Regulatory Committees and Panels

The National Law sets out the committees and panels that support the Council in undertaking its regulatory activities.

Regulatory committees and panels include:

- Assessment Committees
- Impaired Registrants Panels (IRP)
- Performance Review Panels (PRP)

The Council appointed Impaired Registrants Panels during the year with membership as shown in Table ii.

Table ii: Medical Radiation Practice Council Regulatory Committees and Panels

Impaired Registrants Panels
Ms Sandy Brown
Mr Darrin Gray
Ms Mary-Anne Friend
Ms Alison Reid
Ms Natalie Pollard

Council Committees

Councils may establish committees to assist with Council functions. Committee members are not necessarily Council members.

The Medical Radiation Practice Council did not appoint any committees during the year.

Meetings and Events

The Medical Radiation Practice Council was represented at the following meetings and events during the year.

Table iii: Medical Radiation Practice Council representation at meetings and events

Name of Meeting / Event	Attended By
Licensure Enforcement and Regulation (CLEAR) International Congress - 2017	Dr Jovanovic – Deputy President
ASMIRT Conference 2018	Ms Vitucci – President Dr Jovanovic – Deputy President

Overseas Travel

The Medical Radiation Practice Council did not incur any overseas travel costs during the year.

Remuneration

Council members received the following remuneration.

President	\$2,336 per annum
Deputy President	\$1,752 per annum
Council Members	\$1,752 per annum

Council members also receive sitting fees for conducting Council Inquiries, attending committee meetings and undertaking other regulatory activities if these are on a day other than the regular Council meeting.

Council members are reimbursed for expenses when travelling on official business at Council direction.

Panel and Tribunal members receive remuneration and reimbursement of expenses related to Council business.

Education and Research Account

The Medical Radiation Practice Council maintains an Education and Research account. This helps fund activities that promote better understanding of professional standards and compliance, issues that can lead to complaints and how complaints are managed. The account may also be used to fund relevant research activity including both Council specific initiatives and collaborative projects.

Education and Research account expenditure this year totalled \$3,866 for a booth booking and Council attendance at the ASMIRT Conference 2018.

Financial Management

The Medical Radiation Council's accounts performance was reported in the Financial Statement as follows.

Accounts Performance 2017/18	\$
Revenue	374,086
Operating expenditure	145,501
Gain / (loss) on disposal	(31)
Net result	228,554
Net cash reserves* (cash and cash equivalents minus current liabilities)	1,875,026

* Included in the cash reserves is an Education and Research bank account balance of \$51,025.

The Medical Radiation Council's budget for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 is as follows.

Budget 2018/19	\$
Revenue	324,344
Operating expenditure	329,990
Net result	-5,646

Full financial statements are presented in Part 3 of this report 'Financial Statements for NSW Health Professional Councils'.