

FOREWORD

Allied Health Clinical Council (AHCC) meetings were held on 23 August 2021, 22 November 2021, 21 February 2022 and 23 May 2022. The AHCC. Meetings are 2 hours in duration and have been held via Zoom during the COVID period. Board member Jeffery Jenkins has been invited to attend all meetings from August 2022. The committee received the resignation of Cathy O'Brien during the year, and the resignation of Board member Belinda Hill (previously a Chair of the AHCC who also attended the meetings on a regular basis), and their contributions to AHCC were acknowledged.

MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE

- Physiotherapist (Penrith and Lithgow)
- Clinical Psychologist (Penrith x2)
- Pharmacist (Portland)
- Exercise Physiologist (Hawkesbury)
- Chiropractor (Hawkesbury)
- Podiatrist (Penrith)

Name	Eligible	Attended
Rudi Crncec	4	3
Rebecca Hannon	4	3
Jillian Harrington (Chair)	4	4
Dr Anne Lyell	4	4
Cathy O'Brien	2	0
Chris Scanlon	4	3

Gobika Srikanthan	4	4
Emily Standen	4	2
Sally Webb	4	4

In line with the AHCC skills matrix and as the needs of our region change, additional members will continue to join the AHCC over time.

KEY MATTERS CONSIDERED 2022

Items considered in the 2022 financial year included,

- Creating a dialogue with the (Federal) Chief Allied Health Officer (who attended the AHCC meeting on 22 November 2021)
- Created a discussion paper on issues facing Allied Health
- Input into WHL COVID response
- Health Pathways overview and input
- Health Literacy overview and input
- Ongoing discussion about integration across our health system (public / private; primary / secondary / tertiary; NDIS)
- Input into Recognise, Refer & Respond Program
- Feedback on "Your Practice Portal – the e-Learning Portal"
- Update on 10-Year Primary Health Care Plan
- Contribution to developing a National PHN Allied Health Strategy

CONTINUING AREAS OF FOCUS IN 2023

Steps are in train for the AHCC in 2022/2023 to:

- Continue the dialogue with the (Federal) Chief Allied Health Officer (attending next AHCC meeting 23 August 2022)
- Considering and assisting implementation of National PHN Allied Health Strategy
- Continued focus on workforce issues (present and emerging)

CHAIR'S QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT

Challenges, Highlights and Outcomes

- An ongoing challenge for the Allied Health Profession, especially in our region, is the shortfall in qualified AH providers and qualified staff
- Ability to influence issues that affect Allied health outside the scope of Wentworth Healthcare
- Very positive Committee committed to improving the Health and Allied Health workforce in our region.
- Very appreciative of all feedback and advice from all members
- Very good attendance by members made easier and therefore more valuable by the use of Zoom