



CATSINaM

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Executive Officer
Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia
AHPRA
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Dear Tanya

Public consultation paper on the proposed registration standard endorsement for scheduled medicines for eligible midwives.

As the national health professional peak body for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander nurses and midwives, CATSINaM is supportive of maximising the skills and scope of practice for these two professions. On this basis CATSINaM's supports the changes as proposed in the above consultation paper.

These changes reflect the progress made since the Australian Government's announcement in 2010 that midwives would be able to access the MBS and PBS arrangements as appropriate to their scope of practice. At that time an approved pharmacological course was not available to midwives, thus creating a delay and a separate process for midwives gaining approval and access to the PBS. As courses are now available the grandfather clause is redundant. The other changes are also supported as they provide greater clarity between the standards as they relate to eligible midwives.

However, CATSINaM also notes that if the revised registration standard endorsement for scheduled medicines for eligible midwives is approved, the current *Eligible midwife registration standard* will also require amending. The Eligible midwife registration standard contains the "18 month condition" in regards to courses, the requirement (point c) that a midwife must demonstrate practice across the midwifery continuum and additional 20 hours of CPD related to the continuum of midwifery care. Yet the revised schedule medicine endorsement standard provides the option to practice across the continuum of midwifery care or specified context of practice. Without further clarification and alignment between the two standards confusion will continue for midwives contemplating becoming an eligible midwife.

Yours Sincerely

Janine Mohamed
Chief Executive Officer

CONGRESS OF ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER NURSES AND MIDWIVES

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