



## Australasian College for Emergency Medicine

34 Jeffcott Street West Melbourne Victoria 3003, Australia  
+61 3 9320 0444 | admin@acem.org.au | ABN 76 009 090 715

# ACEM Feedback on the Health Practitioner Regulation (NSW) Regulation 2016 June 2024

The Australasian College for Emergency Medicine (ACEM; the College) welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback on the Health Practitioner Regulation (New South Wales) Regulation 2016 (Regulation) and the current composition of the New South Wales (NSW) Councils.

ACEM is a not-for-profit organisation responsible for training emergency physicians and advancement of professional standards in emergency medicine in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand. As the peak professional organisation for emergency medicine, ACEM has a vital interest in ensuring the highest standards of medical care are provided for all patients presenting to emergency departments (EDS).

ACEM engaged comments and feedback from previous and current Medical Council NSW College nominees in their capacity as emergency physicians and members of the College.

Question 1) Is the current membership number for each Council appropriate? And Question 2) Should membership numbers be made more consistent across the Councils and, if so, how?

The College advocates for the continuing nomination of an emergency medicine physician to the Medical Council NSW and its deliberating committees. The size and proportions of the Medical Council NSW, in its current form appears to adequately reflect the needs of the medical profession.

Question 4) Should the Medical Council continue to have college members?

The college believes that there is significant benefit in a member of the College being appointed to the Medical Council NSW, to provide an Emergency Medicine (EM) perspective. Emergency medicine physicians are concerned with the prevention, diagnosis, and management of acute and urgent aspects of illness and injury among patients of all ages, who present to EDs with a spectrum of undifferentiated physical and behavioural disorders. Emergency medicine physicians bring this perspective with them in their contributions as representatives of the College. Emergency physicians not only provide important input into the working lives of emergency physicians, facing regulatory review but also bring a much wider range of broader systems perspectives that are invaluable to regulatory reviews.

Question 5) If so, how should college members be selected?

The College has a current nomination policy which determines the ways in which College members are nominated to represent external bodies [COR823 ACEM Representatives on External Bodies Policy](#). In future it may be beneficial if the College were to put forward shortlisted candidates, and the Medical Council NSW, can then interview and nominate the most appropriate candidate from the shortlist.

If you require any further information about any of the feedback provided, please do not hesitate to contact Hamish Bourne, Manager, Policy and Advocacy ([Hamish.bourne@acem.org.au](mailto:Hamish.bourne@acem.org.au)).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Re'.

**Dr Rhys Ross-Browne**  
ACEM New South Wales Faculty Board Chair