

**Annual
Report
2015-16**

**Medical Radiation
Practice Council**

of New South Wales



President's message



*Medical Radiation Practice
Council of New South Wales*

I am pleased to submit the 2016 Annual Report for the Medical Radiation Practice Council of New South Wales (Council).

As the Council progresses into the fifth year of regulation of the Medical Radiation Practitioner profession the past year has seen a slight increase in the number of complaints made. The Council is pleased that the number of complaints is relatively low for the profession and that communication strategies regarding regulation in NSW are reaching and informing the target audience of the profession, the community and stakeholders.

There were a number of achievements for the Council in 2016 that I would like to outline:

- The Council continues to consolidate the core functions of regulation, which has enabled us to efficiently perform our core role of protecting the community and achieve a further reduction of fees to \$150 for registrants in NSW for 2016
- Contribution to inter-council and AHPRA collaboration and research activities
- Consolidation of inter-council education, joint Council Presidents and National Board Chairs meetings and formal presentations.

On behalf of the Council, I would like to thank the Health Professional Councils Authority for its assistance and support throughout the year. This has enabled the Council to perform its regulatory and legislative functions and to fulfil its public protection obligations. The Council also looks forward to another productive and rewarding year ahead working collaboratively with the Health Care Complaints Commission in a co-regulatory environment to protect the interests of the public.

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

Ms Tracy Vitucci

President

Medical Radiation Practice Council of New South Wales

Regulation of Medical Radiation Practitioners in 2015/16

Overview

5,089

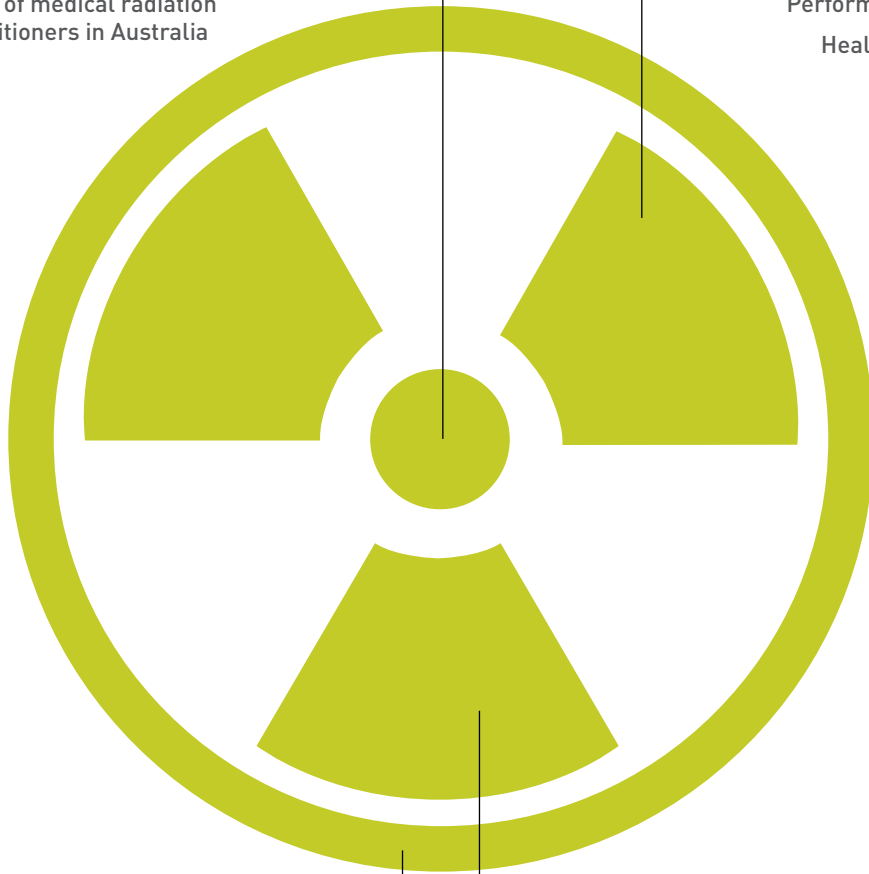
REGISTERED MEDICAL RADIATION PRACTITIONERS IN NSW

2.7% more than last year in NSW
33.3% of medical radiation practitioners in Australia

13

NEW COMPLAINTS RECEIVED RELATED TO

Conduct - 3
Performance - 9
Health - 1



11

CLOSED COMPLAINT OUTCOMES INCLUDED

9 no further action
2 discontinued

16

COMPLAINTS WERE MANAGED

3 open at start of year
13 received during the year
11 closed during the year
5 open at end of year
1 active monitoring case at end of year

Regulation of Medical Radiation Practitioners in NSW in 2015/16

Year in summary

As at 30 June 2016 NSW had 5,089 registered medical radiation practitioners representing 33.3% of the 15,303 medical radiation practitioners registered to practise in Australia. There was an increase of 2.7% on the 4,957 medical radiation practitioners registered in NSW last year.

During the year the Medical Radiation Practice Council of NSW managed 16 complaints including:

- 3 open matters at the start of the year
- 13 new complaints received during the year.

By year end 11 complaints had been closed and five matters remained open.

The 13 new complaints received this year were about 12 practitioners representing 0.24% of NSW registered medical radiation practitioners. There were three more complaints received this year compared with the 10 complaints received in 2014/15.

The Council received four complaints from a government department; two from patients; two from an employer; one each from an employee, a member of the public, a Council and AHPRA; and one complaint was anonymous.

This year there were two mandatory notifications about two practitioners.

Complaints received about NSW medical radiation practitioners related to:

- Conduct – 3 complaints
- Performance – 9 complaints
- Health – 1 complaint.

One breach of condition matter received immediate action consideration.

After Council consultations with the HCCC, eight of the complaints received during the year were referred for Council management.

No matters were referred to NCAT.

One Impaired Registrant panel was concluded during the year.

Outcomes for the 11 matters closed during the year were as follows.

Outcome	Number
No further action required	9
Discontinued	2
Total	11

At year end one health case was being actively monitored.

Council Membership

Section 41E of the Law prescribes that there are six members of the Medical Radiation Practice Council appointed by the Governor.

Members who are registered medical radiation practitioners:

- 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 Margaret Carmody A Dip Med Rad (NM), BMed Rad Sc (NM)
- Ms Sheryl Foster MHSc (MRS).

Legal member:

- Mr Hugh Macken BA, LLB, LLM.

Community member:

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

Attendance at Council Meetings

The Medical Radiation Practice Council met on ten occasions, including meetings by teleconference. Attendance at the meetings was as follows.

Member	Meetings Attended	Meetings Eligible to Attend
Ms Tracy Vitucci	9	10
Dr Karen Jovanovic	10	10
Ms Sheryl Foster	10	10
Ms Margaret Carmody	9	10
Mr Hugh Macken	9	10
Mr Warren Stretton	10	10

Executive Officer

The Medical Radiation Practice Council was supported by Executive Officer, Ms Myra Nikolich, Deputy Executive Officer, Ms Maxine Kauter and two Program Officers, all employed by the HPCA.

Committees of Council

Section 41F of the Law provides that the Council may establish committees to assist it with the exercise of its functions. Members of committees need not be Council members. The Medical Radiation Practice Council did not appoint any committees during the reporting period.

Regulatory Committees and Panels

Part 8 of the Law prescribes the committees and panels that support the Council in undertaking its regulatory activities. They include Assessment Committees, Impaired Registrants Panels and Performance Review Panels. One Impaired Registrant Panel was convened during the year.

Meetings and Conferences

The Medical Radiation Practice Council was represented at the following meetings.

Name	Attendance
Council Presidents' Forum	Ms Tracy Vitucci
Sydney Information Session Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia at Royal North Shore Hospital – Notifications in NSW	Ms Tracy Vitucci

Overseas Travel

There was no overseas travel during the reporting period.

Council Communications

The Medical Radiation Practice Council website is the principal medium used for communicating information to medical radiation practitioners, students and the community. The website is updated regularly and includes links to other key bodies in the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme.

The Medical Radiation Practice Council aims to regularly distribute electronic newsletters to medical radiation practitioners with a principal place of practice in NSW. Further information is available at www.medicalradiationpracticecouncil.nsw.gov.au.

Remuneration

Remuneration for members of the Council was as follows.

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

In addition, Council members receive sitting fees for the conduct of Council Inquiries or hearings under section 150 of the Law, counselling interviews and other regulatory activities if held on a day other than monthly Council meetings. Council members are reimbursed for expenses incurred when travelling on official business at Council direction.

Members of panels and tribunals also receive remuneration and reimbursement of expenses.

Financial Management

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

Accounts Performance 2015/16	\$
Revenue	468,383
Operating expenditure	111,542
Gain/(loss) on disposal	60
Net result	356,901
Net cash reserves (cash and cash equivalents minus current liabilities)	1,355,532

* Included in the net cash reserves is Education and Research bank account balance of \$52,771.

The Medical Radiation Practice Council's budget for the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 is as follows.

Budget 2016/17	\$
Revenue	412,092
Operating expenditure	213,092
Net result	199,000

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