

Thank you Louise Willis

Your comments have been submitted to the RACGP Curriculum review.

For your records, the following is the detail of your feedback and will be sent to your email account.

Curriculum review feedback Submitted

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General
Comments: GPDV welcomes the opportunity to provide some comments on RACGP's curriculum statements. GP education and training is a core role for divisions of general practice as they are concerned with supporting and improving the quality of general practice. Divisions' main involvement is as a provider of continuing professional development for GPs, although they can be involved at other stages of GP education. As the statewide peak body for divisions, GPDV plans to increase its focus on the area of GP education and training over the next few years. We have some specific comments on a few of the frameworks, as follows.

Specific
comment : **Mental health**
Some minor amendments might be useful to emphasise connections between the GP and other, external providers and services. For example, under Professional and Ethical Role (p.5), the fourth paragraph says: "The general practitioner may need to develop professional skills in leading teams, appropriate communication and the delegation of responsibility when working in a multidisciplinary team". We would suggest an additional sentence along these lines: "The general practitioner may also need to develop professional skills in contributing to care plans across services and in relationships involving the shared care of patients." In Continuing

Professional Development (p.13), there is no section that requires the GP to have skills in collaborative care with other mental health providers in both public and private sectors. This should be included under Applied Professional knowledge and skills. Under Organisational and Legal Dimensions (p.6), there could be a dot point along these lines: • Observe confidentiality and privacy requirements in the treatment of patient records, including storage, transmission and access.

**Specific
comment :**

Practice management

Promoting team-based approaches for delivering clinical care in general practice (through divisions) is one of GPDV's main areas of work. The team-based approach, which is well-suited to addressing population health within the practice, could be more clearly reflected in the practice management statement. For example, the statement rationale mentions addressing the issue of "workforce shortages and the trend to team based community care" which implies that teams exist as a response to the GP workforce shortage. While workforce shortage may be one driver, it would be more useful to emphasise instead the potential of teams to deliver the most effective and appropriate care to patients. Given that practice nurses are now part of the general practice team, it would be useful to build into the five domains the skills required of GPs in delegating, supervising and reviewing the nurses' role. Similarly, communication skills in the five domains should include communicating to the patient the role of the practice nurse in the patient's care. Human resource management, which is becoming more complex as teams become more diverse, could also be built into the organisational and legal dimensions, including all the processes associated with recruitment, and ongoing management of staff (e.g. performance reviews and so on).

**Specific
comment :**

Children's and young people's health

The current curricula says: Applied Professional Knowledge and Skills Identify and implement an appropriate management plan for children/young people who are at risk of abuse, violence, neglect homelessness or non accidental injury This should be retained. It is not included in the global description of 5 domains on p. 2 of version 1.04 Overall the Statement Draft appears to have diluted the focus on appropriate management of children at risk and children who have experienced domestic violence, abuse or neglect. By contrast, this is referred to in the Green Book in the UK where the Looking After Children program has created a new focus on investing in recovery and well being for these children and young people. In the UK model, managing abused and neglected children is one of the two key areas for General Practice competence alongside managing the acutely ill child.

This level of focus is warranted in Australia given the ever increasing number of children being taken into out of home care as a result of abuse and neglect.

**Specific
comment :**

Disability (intellectual, developmental and physical)

GPDV has already had input to this statement, through staff-level membership of a consultation group (convened by the Centre for Developmental Disability at Monash. The group included the director of the centre, 3 GPs, 2 divisional staff members, a representative of the state health department Disability Services Branch and a GPDV staff member). That group agreed that the statement seemed appropriate.

**Specific
comment :**

Palliative care

The palliative care statement is excellent and very comprehensive.