

# Standard in Focus

## Standard 1.1 - Governance

December 2020

### Standard 1.1 Governance

Intern training is offered as a combination of supervised practice and integrated training. While some training is specific to them, interns are also part of a wider training and service delivery system within the health service, which provides:

- clinical training for medical students,
- work-based training during internship and subsequent prevocational years, and
- training for doctors in specialist medical programs.

This set of standards focuses on supporting interns but recognises the importance of vertical integration across the medical training continuum.

- **1.1.1** *The governance of the intern training program and assessment roles are defined*

Intern training programs in Queensland are made up of a number of components (FEP, assessment, supervision, terms etc) that have been developed with the goal of assisting interns to achieve general registration at the end of the program. It is expected that each Intern Training Program will reflect the training provider's expectations regarding intern training outcomes and be able to demonstrate this through executive sponsorship, committees, policies, procedures and other linkage mechanisms that help develop the potential and sustain the program.

Governance arrangements should help supervisors, medical administrators, interns and others involved in the program to monitor and assess the program's current state and allow them to adjust content and the direction of different components as necessary to ensure the program continues to meet interns training needs.

- **1.1.2** *The health services that contribute to the intern training program have a system of clinical governance or quality assurance that includes clear lines of responsibility and accountability for the overall quality of medical practice*

Clinical governance or quality assurance ensures that the community and health service organisations can be confident that systems are in place to deliver safe and high-quality health care, and continuously improve services. Clinical governance is an integrated component of corporate governance of health service organisations.

It ensures that everyone – from frontline clinicians to managers and members of governing bodies, such as boards – is accountable to patients and the community for assuring the delivery of health services that are safe, effective, integrated, high quality and continuously improving.

- **1.1.3** *The health services give appropriate priority to intern medical education and training relative to other responsibilities*

Teaching, training, appraising and assessing doctors are critical functions in caring for patients both now, and for developing a highly skilled workforce for the future. It is important health services recognise and resource this educational role. In doing this, intern training providers should be able to demonstrate the relative importance of medical education and training within their service through the intentional assignment and review of program objectives, resources and time frames.

- **1.1.4** *The intern training program complies with relevant national, state or territory laws and regulations pertaining to intern training.*

Intern training providers must comply with laws and regulations as businesses, employers and healthcare providers and demonstrate that they have systems for audit and quality assurance processes that comply with the relevant laws and regulations. The policies and procedures they implement to meet these requirements will also pertain to intern training. Intern training providers may demonstrate they meet the PMAQ Accreditation Standards by demonstrating compliance with laws and regulations through other processes.