

2015

## DOCTORS CALL FOR BETTER ON-THE-JOB TRAINING

AMA Queensland has called on the State Government to set up a new statutory body to consolidate and strengthen doctor training and development.

Responsibility for workforce training and development has been fragmented across the 16 individual regional Hospital and Health Services, causing an inconsistent approach to medical education.

AMA Queensland President Dr Chris Zappala said establishing a Queensland Medical Education and Training Institute (QMETI) would bring medical workforce training under a single umbrella.

“We want Queenslanders to have access to the best doctors in Australia,” Dr Zappala said.

“Unfortunately, intern training and support differs from region to region. While there are pockets of excellence, there are also areas where junior doctors are being let down.

“Junior doctors frequently move across multiple Hospital and Health Services during their training, so it is in the best interests of the broader health sector that they are trained to a consistent standard.”

QMETI would take the lead in education and training for patient care and clinician leadership; to ensure they meet the health system’s needs and improve the culture of Queensland Health.

“Bringing training under one roof would ensure there were consistent, high quality programs available to doctors at every stage of their careers, from their first days at the bedside through to retirement,” he said. “We must also focus on improving the health of doctors by ensuring they can safely seek medical treatment without fear of mandatory reporting.

“We recommend introducing a range of work-based programs to help improve the health of doctors and ensure workplaces have robust policies and procedures in relation to harassment and bullying.”

Dr Zappala released the second part of AMA Queensland’s five year Health Vision – which examines the challenges facing the medical workforce - at the second annual Junior Doctor Conference in Brisbane. Council of Doctors in Training Chair Dr Thomas Arthur said the weekend conference would inspire and excite junior doctors to make the most of their careers.

“We’ve gathered a host of impressive speakers including Professor Ian Frazer, Professor John Murtagh, Dr Bob Brown, Dr Rowan Gillies, Dr Jenny Stedmon, and Associate Professor Michael Steyn,” Dr Arthur said. “It promises to be motivating and useful to find out how these leaders have forged pathways in their chosen fields.

“We want our junior doctors to think big and strive for excellence as medical professionals and as individuals.”

### Health Vision Part 2

**TARGET ONE** - By 2020 the Queensland Government has established the Queensland Medical Education and Training Institute (QMETI):

- An annual skills audit of Queensland junior doctors.
- Development and standardisation of clinical education across Queensland.
- Development and expansion of clinical leadership programs.
- Support the establishment of network training programs in areas of workforce need.

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- Establish and extend dedicated doctors' health programs.

TARGET TWO - By 2020 the rate of psychological distress and specific mental health diagnoses reported by doctors should be at the rate of the general population

AMA Queensland's Health Vision: [/page/Advocacy/AMA\\_Queenslands\\_Health\\_Vision/](/page/Advocacy/AMA_Queenslands_Health_Vision/)