



the peak body and leading voice  
for sonographers

16 December 2019

Mr Martin Fletcher  
Chief Executive Officer  
The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency  
GPO Box 9958  
Melbourne VIC 3001

Emailed to: [ahpra.consultation@ahpra.gov.au](mailto:ahpra.consultation@ahpra.gov.au)

Dear Mr Fletcher,

Thank you for allowing the Australasian Sonographers Association (ASA) to consider the proposed *Supervised practice framework* intended to apply to Australian health professions regulated under the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (NRAS).

Although sonographers are not currently regulated under the NRAS, approximately 30% of our profession maintains registration with the Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia (MRPBA). As guidelines such as these will affect the professional practice of this 30% of the sonographer workforce, the ASA welcomes the opportunity to review these documents before they are implemented.

I congratulate AHPRA on the quality of this proposed framework. Although the requirements would only apply to MRPBA regulated practitioners in a selection of circumstance, the ASA considers the structure of the proposed framework a suitable representation of the four different types of supervised practice. The framework provides clarity about the expectations of supervised practice and about what is required at each level of the different forms of supervised practice.

The framework should also make it easier for supervised practice in the rural environment. The ASA is supportive of removing the number of years of experience required by the supervisor. This allows for a more flexible approach to supervision.

Overall the proposed framework is a good template for employers, supervisors and supervisees to meet the expected standards in their respective professions.

Thank you again for the opportunity to review these documents. If you have any questions or require additional information in support of this feedback, please contact the ASA Policy Advisor, James Brooks-Dowsett, by phone on (03) 9552 0008 or email to [policy@sonographers.org](mailto:policy@sonographers.org).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Schroen', with a flourish at the end.

**Ian Schroen**  
President  
The Australasian Sonographers Association