

ANNUAL REPORT 2014 - 15



MEDICAL RADIATION
PRACTICE COUNCIL
OF NEW SOUTH WALES

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



*Medical Radiation Practice
Council of New South Wales*

It is with pleasure that I introduce the 2015 report for the Medical Radiation Practice Council of New South Wales. This is my second President's term and I am proud to give this overview of what was a busy and productive year.

There were a number of achievements for the Council in 2015.

In particular, I would like to highlight:

- Efficiencies achieved in consolidating the core functions of regulation over the first three year term of the Council have enabled a reduction of fees to \$160 for NSW registrants in 2015.
- Participation in the Process Improvement Plan with a focus on utilisation of agreed processes for complaints management to enable Council to meet its statutory responsibilities. This included a focus by Council on timeliness, responsiveness and resource allocation.
- Continuing nomination of professional experts and Tribunal members for Tribunal hearings.

Over the past year there was a slight decrease in complaints. This report goes into more detail about these complaints. As the Council moves into its fourth year within the scheme, maturation of the community's and professional knowledge of reporting processes and obligations is increasing. The Council is working towards resources to assist stakeholders' level of understanding of the regulatory framework and its function in NSW.

HPCA staff continued to provide high quality support services to the Council during the year assisting us to fulfil our public protection responsibilities.

Members of the Council are working hard to consolidate the knowledge gained over the last three years and apply this when undertaking the regulatory function of the Council. We look forward to a productive and rewarding year ahead in protecting the interests of the public.

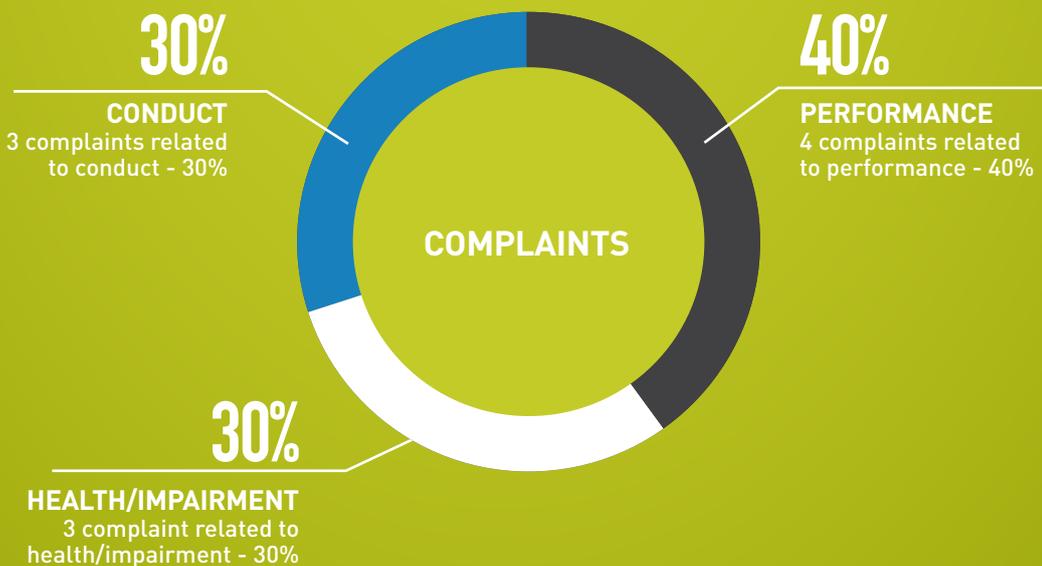
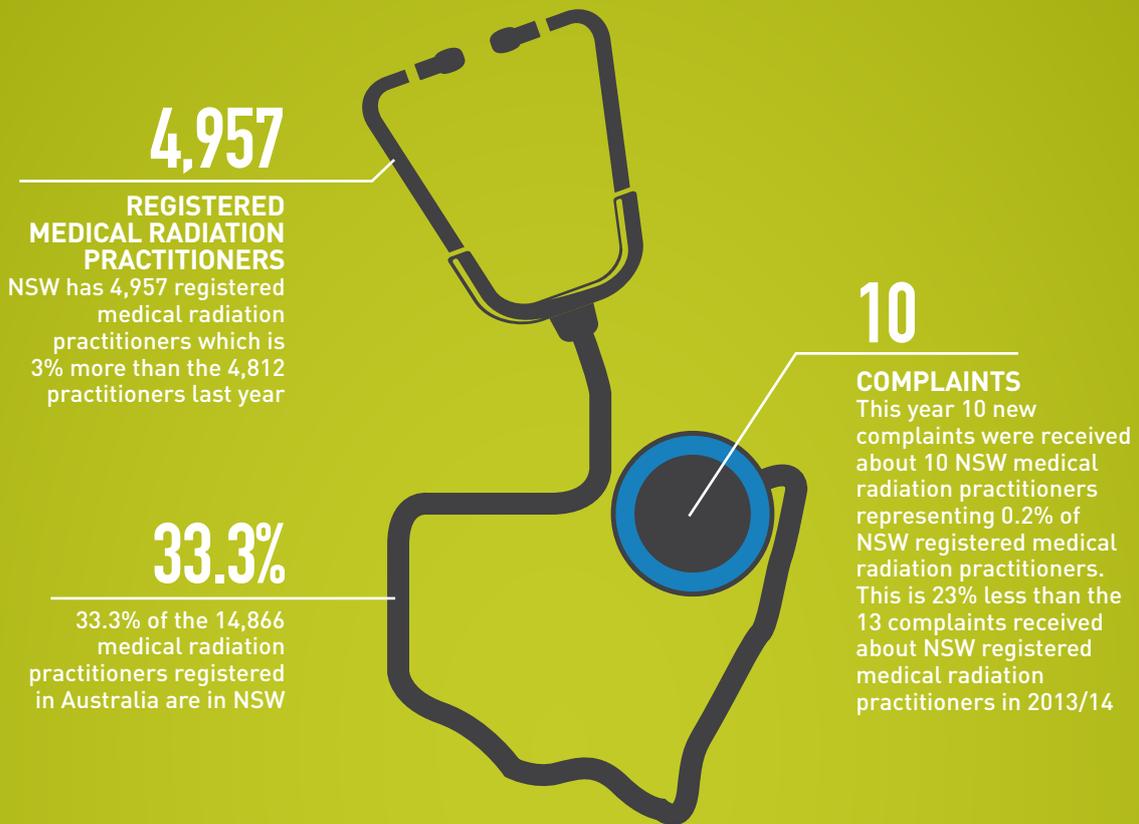
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tracy Vitucci', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

(Ms) Tracy Vitucci

President

Medical Radiation Practice Council of New South Wales

REGULATION OF MEDICAL RADIATION PRACTITIONERS IN 2014/15 YEAR IN SUMMARY



Regulation of Medical Radiation Practitioners in NSW in 2014/15

Year in summary

NSW has 4,957 registered medical radiation practitioners which is 3% more than the 4,812 practitioners last year and 33.3% of the 14,866 medical radiation practitioners registered to practise in Australia

This year 10 new complaints were received about 10 NSW medical radiation practitioners representing 0.2% of NSW registered medical radiation practitioners. This is 23% less than the 13 complaints received about NSW registered medical radiation practitioners in 2013/14.

Complaints about NSW medical radiation practitioners included:

- 3 related to conduct - 30%
- 4 related to performance - 40%
- 3 related to health/impairment - 30%.

Three mandatory notifications were received.

Three complaints were received from other health practitioners, two from the relative of a patient or the practitioner, two from another agency or individual, one from an employer and two were self reports.

A total of 15 complaints were managed during the reporting period, including five carried over from 2013/14.

Two complaints involved an Impaired Registrants Panel, two a Health Assessment and one a Performance Review Panel.

Three practitioners were monitored for compliance with orders/conditions during the reporting period.

Twelve complaints were closed during the year with outcomes including:

- 1 conditions by consent
- 1 referred to another body
- 7 required no further action
- 3 discontinued.

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 – President
- Dr Karen Jovanovic HScD, MMedSc, Grad Dip, Clin Epid DCR (T) – Deputy President
- Ms Margaret Carmody A Dip Med Rad (NM), BMed Rad Sc (NM)
- Ms Sheryl Foster MHSc (MRS)

Community members:

- Mr Hugh Macken BA, LLB, LLM – Legal member
- Mr Warren Stretton FAICD, FCPA, FCIS, FGIA, FTI, FAMI, CPM

No new members were appointed during the year and no members retired.

Attendance at Council Meetings

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

Member	Meetings Attended	Meetings Eligible to Attend
Ms Tracy Vitucci	7	7
Dr Karen Jovanovic	6	7
Ms Margaret Carmody	6	7
Ms Sheryl Foster	6	7
Mr Hugh Macken	6	7
Mr Warren Stretton	7	7

Executive Officer

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

The Medical Radiation Practice Council was supported by two of these bodies during the reporting period with membership as follows.

Regulatory Committee or Panel	Membership	Meetings Attended
Impaired Registrants Panel	Dr Michael Diamond	1
	Dr Susan Messner	1
	Dr Alison Reid	2
	Ms Kirsten Moffat	1
	Mr Trevor Sandy Brown	4
	Mr Darrin Gray	1
	Mrs Sharon Oultram	1
Performance Review Panel	Dr Alison Reid	1
	Mr Sasko Kadiev	1
	Ms Kirsten Moffat	1

Meetings and Conferences

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

Name	Attendance
Council Presidents' Forum meeting with the NSW Minister for Health	Ms Tracy Vitucci
Council Presidents' Forum - bi-monthly meetings	Ms Tracy Vitucci
NRAS Meeting - Research	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 may be accessed on the Council's website at www.medicalradiationpracticecouncil.nsw.gov.au.

Remuneration

Remuneration for members of the Council is as follows.

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

In addition, Council members receive sitting fees of \$448 per day and \$224 per half day for the conduct of Council Inquiries or hearings under section 150 of the Law, and \$436 per day or \$218 per half day if a Counselling Committee is convened to conduct counselling interview. 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 is as follows.

Accounts Performance 2014/15	\$
Revenue	538,600
Operating expenditure	166,850
Gain/(loss) on disposal	(1,511)
Net result	370,239
Net cash reserves (cash and cash equivalents minus current liabilities)	1,015,321

* Included in the net cash reserves is Education and Research bank account balance of: \$52,148

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

Budget 2015/16	\$
Operating expenditure	235,477
Revenue	449,922
Net result	214,445

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