



Safety Quality Performance

11 March 2011

The Secretary  
Standing Committee on Health and Ageing  
[haa.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:haa.reps@aph.gov.au)

**Submission No. 03**

AOC (NHPA Bill)

Date: 11/03/2011

**For the attention:  
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Health and Ageing**

**Submission from the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS):  
Inquiry into National Health Reform Amendment (National Health Performance Authority)  
Bill 2011**

ACHS supports the establishment and proposed role of the National Health Performance Authority. This position is consistent with the evidence given to the recent inquiry by the Senate Community Affairs Committee in relation to the legislation to establish the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC).

**Part 3.2 Performance Authority's establishment functions, powers and liabilities**

Subsection 60 (3), page 26

ACHS supports the amendment that the Performance Authority may make use of performance indicators and standards formulated by a person or body other than the Performance Authority.

Subsection 63 (1) (2), page 27 and 28

ACHS supports the amendment enabling the Performance Authority to draw on the work of other bodies in the area.

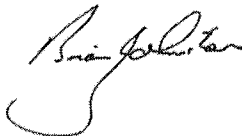
ACHS has a well-established, substantial clinical indicator program which holds one of the largest clinical data sets of its type in the world. ACHS is willing to collaborate with the Performance Authority to adopt or incorporate ACHS Clinical Indicators to support the Authority function.

Subsection 62 (1) (2), page 27

In relation to the Authority's reporting of poor performance by an entity or facility, ACHS notes that reports must be consistent, complete and accurate. The timing of data reports is of particular importance. Failure to address these concerns in the short to medium term could adversely impact on the support of practising clinicians on the work of the Authority. ACHS is aware of significant concerns to this effect being expressed by clinicians over recent years.

Thank you for inviting ACHS to provide a submission in relation to the National Health Reform Amendment (National Health Performance Authority) Bill 2011.

Yours sincerely,



**BW Johnston**  
Chief Executive  
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