



30 September 2024

Attn: Sheean Werkmeister  
Coroner's Registrar  
Coroners Support Services  
Email: [cpuresponses@coronerscourt.vic.gov.au](mailto:cpuresponses@coronerscourt.vic.gov.au)

**Coroners Court of Victoria Finding into Passing of Jacob William Kennedy  
COR 2017 000595**

Dear Ms Werkmeister

Thank you again for sharing Coroner Olle's findings into the passing of Jacob Kennedy with us.

I'm writing to confirm that we have shared the findings and recommendations made under section 72(2) of the Coroners Act 2008 (Vic) (the Act) with the Executive Officers for both of the Medical Board of Australia (MBA) and the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) as promised in my email of 19 September 2024.

The National Boards develop regulatory guidelines and codes that describe what is expected of health practitioners registered to practise their health profession in Australia. The codes set out the principles that characterise good practice and make explicit the standards of ethical and professional conduct expected of health practitioners by their professional peers and the community. As regulators, the Boards do not tend to develop clinical practice guidelines though there are other authoritative organisations such as the NHMRC, specialist colleges and nursing organisation/s that develop guidelines.

The case of Jacob Kennedy raises some important issues that should be shared with medical practitioners and nurses. We believe that it would be most effective if we publish the case and the findings in the newsletters that we issue to registrants of both the MBA and NMBA. These publications are read by most registrants and could highlight the importance of observing or monitoring sedated patients in inpatient psychiatric units.

Could you please advise whether this would be an acceptable response for the MBA and NMBA Boards and if you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matthew Hardy".

**Matthew Hardy**  
National Director Notifications

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency  
National Boards  
GPO Box 9958 Melbourne VIC 3001 [Ahpra.gov.au](http://Ahpra.gov.au) 1300 419 495

Ahpra and the National Boards regulate these registered health professions: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practice, Chinese medicine, chiropractic, dental, medical, medical radiation practice, midwifery, nursing, occupational therapy, optometry, osteopathy, paramedicine, pharmacy, physiotherapy, podiatry and psychology.