

Medical Deans' Indigenous Student Statistics

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Māori students currently represent a relatively small number of the total medical student population of both Australia and New Zealand/Aotearoa. Depending on the presentation and analysis of student data, this presents a greater potential for these students to be identified. Medical Deans recognises that unintended consequences may easily result from the analysis of data which is focussed on Indigenous populations. In light of this Medical Deans supports the following principles, guidelines and protocols regarding the specific access and research on all its Indigenous medical student data, including MSOD data.

Principles and guidelines

- *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Data Principles* as endorsed by the Australian Health Minister's Advisory Council
- *Guidelines for Researchers on Health Research Involving Māori* as revised by the Māori Health Committee of the Health Research Council of New Zealand
<http://www.hrc.govt.nz/news-and-publications/publications/guidelines-researchers-health-research-involving-m%C4%81ori>
- National Health and Medical Research Council's *Roadmap II A strategic framework for improving the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people through research*
<http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelines/publications/r47>
- *National Privacy Principles* and the *Information Privacy Principles* found within the Australian Governments Privacy Act 1988 (and future amendments) www.privacy.gov.au
- National Health and Medical Research Council's *Values and Ethics: Guidelines for Ethical Conduct in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Research*
http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/files_nhmrc/publications/attachments/e52.pdf

Protocols

- Medical Deans will respond to applications seeking national and or state unidentifiable data on Indigenous medical student enrolments.
- In cases of applications seeking Indigenous student data which is potentially identifiable, Medical Deans will ask for evidence of a research proposal which has been approved by a properly constituted and appropriate Indigenous HREC.
- The MSOD Research and Scientific Advisory Committee (R&SAC) will seek to include two Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members.
- Any release of Indigenous student statistics from the Medical Deans Student Statistics data collection must be authorised by the CEO of Medical Deans Australia and New Zealand.
- Any release of Indigenous student statistics from the MSOD must be authorised by the MSOD R&SAC.