

Position Description

Position title:	Senior Advisor – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health (0.8FTE)
Division:	Policy and Government Relations
Location:	Melbourne preferred or Canberra considered
Reports to:	General Manager, Policy and Government Relations
Approved by:	CEO
Date approved:	February 2021

About us

The Australian Physiotherapy Association (APA) is the peak body representing the interests of over 28,000 physiotherapists in Australia. It does so by advocating for access to quality physiotherapy services, providing leadership in the wider health landscape, creating lifelong information and learning opportunities for members, and promoting the value of physiotherapy to the community.

The APA is proud to have a great working culture and it is underpinned by our values:

- Professional, excellence, united, community minded and visionary

About the role

The Senior Advisor – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health (ATSIH) is responsible for the development and implementation of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health policy and advocacy initiatives, including the implementation of our Reconciliation Action Plan (2021-23), Physiotherapy Cultural Safety Action Plan and our involvement in the Close the Gap (CtG) Campaign.

In this role you will provide expert strategic advice on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health policy and related access issues bringing this focus to health policy design and reform requirements in addressing inequities. This includes providing support to our National Advisory Council (NAC).

More about the role - Main duties and responsibilities

- manage and implement the APA's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP), including:
 - supporting RAP Working Group
 - implementing actions
 - tracking of RAP progress, and
 - reporting of progress in our RAP to our BOD & Reconciliation Australia
- lead the development of the APA's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health policy work including in developing a Cultural Safety Action Plan for the profession
- support the Policy Team in Government Relations and liaison and represent the APA as appropriate
- establish networks and develop strategies to consult with and build policy support among key stakeholders
- support our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Committee (ATSIHC) by organising and administering its meetings and progressing its initiatives
- coordinate the development of stronger networks amongst both our Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander members and our members with an active interest in the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
- support the building and maintaining of meaningful, respectful relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their organisations, including our involvement in the CtG Campaign
- engage with our members to understand their issues, experiences and desired outcomes with respect to reconciliation; and reflect this in our work
- support the logistics for meetings of our National Advisory Council (NAC)
- maintain the APA's register of external representatives and meeting reports
- other tasks as directed by the General Manager, Policy and Government Relations.

About you

- the ability to work with professionals on structural and systemic issues that affect their ability to deliver high quality services
- sound knowledge of the Australian health sector
- knowledge of the private health insurance industry and/or primary health network would also be highly regarded
- excellent written and verbal communication skills, and experienced in preparing briefs and background analyses
- sound skills and experience in rapidly appraising large volumes of information and deriving critical issues from it
- strong interpersonal skills with demonstrated confidence in presenting indicative solutions to panels of peers
- experience in working independently on substantive problems and collaborating in a team-oriented environment
- the ability to effectively prioritize and execute tasks in a high-pressure environment
- experience in a policy-related position