

Establish technical standards for accreditation requirements for clinical teleradiology

A response on behalf of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiology (RANZCR) considers that this project provided important evidence that informed the early stages of the revised standards of practice [RANZCR Standards of Practice for Diagnostic Imaging Version 8.2 (draft 1)].

The project involved: a literature review (including international standards); the development of a discussion document of draft standard recommendations; a 'snapshot' of current Australian teleradiology in the clinical environment; the development of a draft set of recommendations for standards for comment; and finalisation of the recommendation based on feedback from key stakeholders.

How the findings were applied to the RANZCR Standards of Practice:

The process used to apply the findings of this project was influenced by the external factors, in particular the need to fast track the revision of the RANZCR Standards of Practice to support the Department of Health and Ageing's (DoHA) mandatory accreditation scheme for Radiology services.

Consequently, the project team provided RANZCR's Standards of Practice and Accreditation Committee (SPAC) with recommendations for technical and practice standards as they were developed. These recommendations were considered and used to inform the RANZCR's standards development process. The resulting RANZCR Standards therefore reflect the project findings but are not identical to the findings in the final report.