

Dr Joanna Flynn
Chair
Medical Board of Australia
GPO Box 9958
Melbourne VIC 3001

4 April 2012

Dear Dr Flynn,

Re: Consultation on the Board funding external doctors' health programs

With reference to your consultation document dated 8 February 2012, the MIIAA believes that the Doctors Health Advisory Services (DHAS) throughout Australia provide an invaluable service to medical practitioners and must be maintained.

Our member organisations have strong relationships with all state based DHAS and have witnessed the positive impact of each, regardless of their different structures and delivery models. We do appreciate that a range of models exists, from the sophisticated to the less than sophisticated and from the expensive to operate to those best described as running on a shoestring budget.

The MIIAA agrees that a national and consistent model across all states for the delivery of DHAS has great merit. We are not of the opinion that any one of the existing state based models would necessarily provide the best national solution but rather there are core elements of the very best schemes that should form part of any national model.

As the DHAS are an important resource for the medical sector, the MIIAA would like to work with all of the providers in developing a cost effective common model that suits the varying demands of all state jurisdictions.

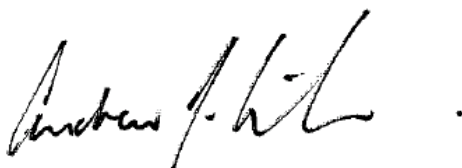
We would be interested in hosting a facilitated forum where the perspectives of all existing services could be taken into consideration in the development of a national model.

Regardless of any decision made in relation to a forum, the MIIAA would like to be involved on an ongoing basis as the review and development process takes place.

To discuss the ongoing involvement of the MIIAA in this process, please contact our National Coordinator,

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Andrew Miller MBBS, LLB (Hons), FANZCA, FACLM
Chairman

The member organisations of the MIIAA provide medical indemnity services to over 70% of Australia's medical practitioners.