



THE HON NICOLA ROXON MP
Minister for Health and Ageing

MEDIA RELEASE

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APPOINTMENT OF FIRST CEO OF HEALTH WORKFORCE AUSTRALIA

I am pleased to announce that the first Chief Executive Officer of Health Workforce Australia will be Mr Mark Cormack, the current Chief Executive of the ACT Health Department. Mr Mark Cormack will be based in Adelaide where the new agency will be established.

Health Workforce Australia has been established to produce more effective, streamlined and integrated clinical training arrangements and to support workforce reform initiatives.

Mr Cormack brings important experience in public and community health care as well as a background in Allied Health.

Mr Cormack has been chosen following an exhaustive national recruitment exercise. His experience and expertise mean he will make a substantial and positive contribution to ensuring Australians have the best health care system possible.

The appointment has the support and approval of all Australian health ministers. It fulfils the major Council of Australian Governments (COAG) goal of establishing a truly national body to work across the health and education sectors to deliver the right number of high quality health professional graduates to service the health needs of the Australian Community.

The \$1.6 billion COAG health workforce reform package, announced in November 2008, is the largest investment in the health workforce ever made by Australian governments. The Australian Government will contribute \$1.1 billion toward the package.

The COAG package also includes additional general practice and medical specialist training places, which will help provide more doctors for the community.

Funding will also be provided for an international recruitment program and for teaching infrastructure and rural clinical school programs.

I look forward to working closely with Mr Cormack.

For all media inquiries, please contact the Minister's Office on 02 6277 7220.