



# MIGRANT & REFUGEE WOMEN'S HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

## Communiqué

### **Eighth Meeting, Working Group, Migrant and Refugee Women's Health Partnership**

**31 August 2018**

The Working Group, Migrant and Refugee Women's Health Partnership, held its eighth meeting in Melbourne on 31 August 2018.

Members acknowledged and thanked the outgoing Chair, Professor Steve Robson, for his dedication and the immense contribution to the establishment of the Partnership and the progress over the first two years.

Dr Kym Jenkins, President of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists, was appointed as Chair.

The group discussed progress in pursuing specific projects, including:

- The finalisation of the Competency Standards Framework, *Culturally Responsive Clinical Practice: Working with People from Migrant and Refugee Backgrounds*
- The collaboration with the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care to use the National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.) to improve the health care provided to migrants and refugees through the development of a user guide for health service organisations
- The collaboration with the Harmony Alliance: Migrant and Refugee Women for Change with a focus on enhancing health literacy strategies in the settlement of migrant and refugee women.

Members discussed strategies for effective promotion of the Competency Standards Framework, *Culturally Responsive Clinical Practice: Working with People from Migrant and Refugee Backgrounds*, recognising the importance of engaging relevant stakeholders, including peak professional and standard setting bodies for clinicians. It was agreed that the final Competency Standards Framework would go out for endorsement by relevant professional bodies prior to being published and launch in the beginning of 2019.

The Working Group met with Professor Richard Osborne, Chair, Public Health, Deakin University, to discuss the importance of a community-based approach to health literacy and its role in achieving equitable access to health care.

The Working Group will hold its next meeting via teleconference in November 2018.

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