

SHI Board Communiqué – February 2023

The SHI Board met on 28th of February 2023 and discussed the following matters:

Board Chair – topics for discussion

- The Chair opened the meeting and also congratulated Associate Professor Aaron Robinson on his recent appointment as Chair of the Victorian Faculty of the Australasian College of Dermatologists.

Strategic planning

- The Board noted the Institute's Strategic Plan 2020-23 was coming to its end this year and discussed the scope and objectives for a strategic planning session to be held in March 2023.
- It was agreed the scope of planning session would include a review of the organisation's Vision and reflections on the outputs from the previous Strategic Plan.
- The Board agreed the focus of this planning cycle should be on the medium to longer term and, in particular, aspirations for the Institute in 5 years' time.
- The Board also discussed the benefits of including a number of stakeholders in addition to the Board and Leadership Team. i.e., capturing the insights and perspectives from nurses, a plastic surgeon, and a registrar.

Collaboration with the Skin Hospital

- The CEO briefed the Board on opportunities to collaborate with the Skin Hospital in NSW, including an upcoming workshop in Sydney to be attended by an SHI delegation.
- It was noted the upcoming collaboration would focus on high-level processes and systems that drive success: such as patient flows, administrative team structure, patient management systems, billing processes, and debtor management.

Operational updates

- Activities underway to improve billing practices and debtor management.
- GP engagement and building increased capacity for urgent GP referrals.
- Trends in theatre utilisation and surgical activity.
- New corporate website and Learning Management System.
- The successful Pillars of Dermatology Symposium and Novartis partnership.

Sub-committee reports – Finance, Audit and Risk Management committee

- The Board discussed the committee's focus on accountability and oversight of the financial sustainability plan objectives; and reaffirmed the Board's ongoing support for the strategy currently underway.
- FARM Chair Jim Power, briefed the Board on YTD performance compared to budget, noting the shortfall in clinical services income and that expenses have been fairly well managed to date.

- Board members noted that YTD clinical services revenue was up substantially in comparison to the same time last year.
- The Board discussed the Australasian Dermatology Registry build and associated funding requirements.

Sub-committee reports – Clinical Governance committee

- The Board received an update on the Clinical Governance Committee's discussions the minimum patient age and implications for the Inclusion/Exclusion and Partnering with Consumers policies, noting that SHI had commenced accepting referrals for patients 12 years and older in some clinics.
- The Board was informed that the Clinical Governance Committee had endorsed and provided advice on plans to increase SHI's capacity to accept urgent GP referrals.

Health promotion

- The Board discussed opportunities to further develop opportunities with health promotion agencies. The Board was pleased to note that VicHealth's CEO, Dr Sandro Demaio, will be a guest speaker at the first All-Staff Forum for the year.

Approved by A/Prof Rosemary Nixon AM, Chair of the SHI Board