

**\*\*\*MEDIA ALERT\*\*\*****ACN POLICY SUMMIT 2025*****Reforming Healthcare Policy for the Future Nursing Workforce***  
**Old Parliament House, Canberra, Friday, 14 March 2025**

5 March 2025

**Unleashing the Power and Potential of Nursing**

The leader of the Federal Government's groundbreaking [Unleashing the Potential of the Health Workforce – Scope of Practice](#) review, Professor Mark Cormack, will address nursing leaders, health policy experts, and industry stakeholders at the eighth annual ACN Policy Summit in Canberra on Friday, 14 March.

Professor Cormack will be joined by an elite panel of health policy experts: Emeritus Professor Stephen Duckett AM, Professor Sabina Knight AM FACN, Karen Booth, and Adjunct Professor Karrie Long MACN.

With the theme, '**Reforming Healthcare Policy for the Future Nursing Workforce**', the Summit will focus on critical challenges in Australia's healthcare system and how nurses and nursing can provide many of the solutions.

- **Keynote Speaker:** Professor Mark Cormack, National Centre for Health Workforce Studies, ANU
- **Panel Participants:**
  - Emeritus Professor Stephen Duckett AM, Health Economist and Board Director
  - Professor Sabina Knight AM FACN, Director, James Cook University Central Queensland Centre for Rural and Remote Health
  - Karen Booth, Chief Clinical Adviser, Australian Digital Health Agency
  - Adjunct Professor Karrie Long MACN, Chief Nurse and Midwifery Officer, Safer Care Victoria
- **ACN Leadership:**
  - Adjunct Professor David Plunkett FACN, President
  - Adjunct Professor Kathryn Zeitz FACN, Chief Executive Officer

As Australia faces evolving healthcare challenges, the nursing profession plays a pivotal role in delivering quality patient care and driving system transformation.

The ACN Policy Summit will address key recommendations from the Scope of Practice Review, including establishing a Primary Care Workforce Development Program, and introducing new payment models to enable multidisciplinary healthcare delivery.

**ACN Policy Summit 2025:****Date:** Friday, 14 March, 2025**Time:** 8:45am - 5:00pm**Location:** Old Parliament House, Canberra

Please find the program attached.

For media enquiries, interview requests, or to register media attendance, please contact:

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Theme:

## **Reforming Healthcare Policy for the Future Nursing Workforce**

The Australian College of Nursing (ACN) proudly presents our  
8th Policy Summit 2025.

<b>8:00am</b>	<b>Registration</b>
8:45am	<b>MC Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country</b> <b>Karen Cook FACN</b>
8:50am	<b>President's Welcome</b> <b>Adjunct Professor David Plunkett FACN</b> – President, Australian College of Nursing
9:00am	<b>Presentation on 2024 ACN policy activities</b> <b>– Policy Leaders Rapid-Fire Presentations</b> <b>Sonia Martin MACN</b> <b>Nilufeur McKay MACN</b> <b>Nancy Zhang</b> <b>Nicole Hibbert MACN</b> <b>Emma Kelly MACN</b>
9:40am	<b>2024 Policy Leaders Graduation and Introduction of the</b> <b>2025 Emerging Policy Leaders</b>
10:00am	<b>Keynote Speaker</b> <b>Professor Mark Cormack</b> – National Centre for Health Workforce Studies, Australian National University
<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Morning Tea</b>

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11:00am **Optimising The Role of Nursing in Health Reform – Discussion Panel** Facilitator: **Karen Cook FACN**

**Dr Stephen Duckett** – Health Economist, Board Director

**Professor Sabina Knight FACN** – Director, James Cook University Central Queensland Centre for Rural and Remote Health

**Karen Booth** – Chief Clinical Adviser, Australian Digital Health Agency

**Adjunct Professor Karrie Long MACN** – Chief Nurse and Midwifery Officer, Safer Care Victoria

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12:15pm **Q & A**

12:30pm **Lunch**

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1:30pm **Breakout Sessions (3 breakout areas)**

Facilitators:

**Associate Professor Jason Mills FACN**

**Adjunct Associate Professor Joanne Mapes FACN**

**Professor Jane Mills FACN**

**Groups will discuss the impact and implications of key recommendation from the Scope of Practice Review (2024):**

**Rec 1:** Develop a National Skills and Capability Framework and Matrix

**Rec 2:** Establish a Primary Care Workforce Development Program

**Rec 10:** Introduce a New Blended Payment to Enable Access to Multidisciplinary Health Care Delivered by Health Professionals Working to their Full Scope of Practice in Primary Care

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3:00pm **Collation of discussions for presentation by group facilitators**

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3:30pm	Afternoon Tea
4.15pm	Feedback from breakout sessions and next steps
4:45pm	<b>Closing Remarks</b> <b>Adjunct Professor Kathryn Zeitz FACN</b> – Chief Executive Officer, Australian College of Nursing
5:00pm	Close

### **Photography and Filming**

There will be photography and filming during the Policy Summit for promotional purposes. Photographs and videos may be used in ACN publications or social media platforms.

Unauthorised photography, taping or recording of any form is strictly prohibited at the Policy Summit. If you do not wish to be photographed or filmed, please inform the camera operator or an ACN Staff Member. [www.acn.edu.au](http://www.acn.edu.au)