

# NSW Standing Health Committee

## Summary report



### Background

Since its inaugural meeting in February 2023, the Standing Health Committee (SHC) has met on nine occasions across various venues in Sydney and the Hunter region.

The development of NSW coal industry health standards was identified as the committee's initial priority. These standards aim to provide greater consistency, clarity and transparency regarding medical determinations and improve medical management of identified health issues across the NSW coal industry.



**The Respiratory Health Standard, the first in a series of health standards to be developed, was released in August 2024.**

### Latest meeting

The latest Standing Health Committee meeting was held in Sydney on Thursday, 21 November 2024. The main focus of this meeting was the review and development of the cardiovascular health standard.

### Highlights and key initiatives

- The SHC welcomed newly appointed NSW Minerals Council representatives, John Turner and Fiona Holman.
- The SHC welcomed Associate Professor James Otton whose expertise will guide the development of the Cardiovascular Health Standard.
- Monique Roberts, Head of Health Operations, presented the risk category guidelines that will be included in the proposed new Order (replacing Order 43) and future industry health standards.
- Development of a Respiratory Health Standard feedback register and plans for incorporation of feedback into the future updates of this standard.
- Dr David Meredith, Head of Medicine, presented an overview of the draft Cardiovascular Health Standard which was drafted from current practice and industry data.
- SHC members workshopped the application of the draft Cardiovascular Health Standard utilising four different coal mine worker case studies. This process identified additional information and changes required to improve the draft health standard.

- SHC Terms of Reference reviewed and updated.
- SHC members identified the need for a summary paper highlighting key initiatives and actions from each meeting, which could then be shared through respective networks.

### Recommendations and actions

- Draft cardiovascular health standard to be updated to incorporate SHC member feedback from this meeting.
- Updated draft cardiovascular standard to be reviewed by SHC members and Associate Professor James Otton.
- Summary paper to be developed in addition to minutes of each SHC meeting.

**Next SHC meeting:**  
**Wednesday, 12 February 2025**

**For further information, including the list of SHC representatives, visit:**

[www.coalservices.com.au/health/standing-health-committee/](http://www.coalservices.com.au/health/standing-health-committee/)