



## REIKI AUSTRALIA

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Dear Barbara

Regarding the article by Margot Lowe, March 2005 entitled “Can we share a single voice? – The journey toward Reiki accreditation in Australia”.

The headline implies that the teaching of Reiki is being accredited in Australia. This is not the case. Accreditation is about introducing standards for Reiki treatment practitioners who are offering Reiki treatments in health and community facilities. The proposed standard currently being developed will cover key competencies relating to the management and delivery of Reiki treatments in public settings, not the actual training and initiation into Reiki I, II or Mastership. The standards for Reiki treatment practitioners are proposed for inclusion in the Health Training Package to meet industry and consumer needs. The national standard will be publicly owned by the Department of Education, Science and Training and not by Reiki Australia, as the article implied.

***The mission of Reiki Australia is:***

***To facilitate the widespread availability of exemplary Reiki treatment practitioners to offer Reiki treatments in diverse health and community environments.***

The article asks: Where does this drive for accreditation come from?

Reiki Australia’s genesis was the 2001 inaugural National Reiki Conference (NRC) in Sydney where Reiki practitioners from various practices and lineages voted unanimously “to develop a minimum set of national standards” and to form a “national self regulating body”.

As well as this momentum from within the national Reiki community, the Australian Health Ministers Advisory Council in 1998 stated that there was a need to develop a set of minimum standards for conduct and safety of complementary health care. Reiki was explicitly included as a Complementary Therapy in the 2002 Discussion Paper in Regulation of Complementary Health Practitioners.

Therefore, the catalyst for accreditation has been in response to a need recognised by the Reiki community and the Health Ministers Advisory Council whose responsibility is to ensure safe and accountable health care in Australia.

A voluntary not-for-profit organisation, Reiki Australia has endeavoured to hear and honour all voices in the Reiki community. Participation rates in RA’s thorough and inclusive consultation process have been healthy, sometimes exceeding that of international conferences on the public practice of Reiki.

Reiki Australia accepts that as an agent for change, it will naturally encounter some resistance. The passionate and committed board and the many members of Reiki Australia's numerous project teams have continued to meet challenges with compassion in order to bring to fruition the unanimous decision made at the inaugural National Reiki Conference. Reiki Australia has earned "access to the ears of officialdom" through consistent participation at a government level. The organisation's credibility and methodology has been acknowledged by its appointment to the Industry Reference Group for Complementary and Alternative Health.

Preserving Reiki as a spiritual practice and healing art has been Reiki Australia's highest priority and responsibility. This is in support of both Reiki lay practitioners and those wishing to further their skills so that they can confidently provide Reiki treatments in a variety of health and community settings.

Readers wanting accurate information about Reiki Australia are invited to visit [www.reikiaustralia.com.au](http://www.reikiaustralia.com.au)

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Reiki Australia