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28 February 2019

## **POSITION STATEMENT ON SLEEP SERVICE ACCREDITATION**

The accreditation of Sleep Disorders Services allows services to demonstrate technical competence in all study types offered as well as quality measures that mitigate and promote improvement.

A voluntary accreditation process for sleep services has been available since 1997 to foster excellence in the approach to management of sleep disorders. The Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand (TSANZ) initially managed the program. The Australasian Sleep Association (ASA) took over governance of this process in July 2009.

The ASA began working with NATA to update the program, with the aim that NATA would take over administration of the program, to be known as the ASA/NATA Sleep Disorders Services (SDS) Accreditation Program. In 2012, the ASA Standards were amended to include the principles from the international standard ISO 15189 (2007) Medical laboratories. Particular requirements for quality and competence and were renamed ASA Standard for Sleep Disorders Services. The inclusion of the ISO requirements to the ASA standards brings sleep disorders services accreditation on par with international standards. In 2016, the ASA Standard was reviewed in line with the latest version of ISO 15189 (2012). Changes were also made following feedback from accredited sleep services. Since 1 January 2017 Sleep Disorders Services are to be assessed against the new version of the ASA Standard (2016).

The Sleep Disorders Services Accreditation Program is run jointly between NATA and the ASA, and a Sleep Disorders Services Accreditation Advisory Committee (SDSAAC) oversees the program. The accreditation program is based on a four-year cycle with a surveillance activity midway through the cycle and a full re-assessment at four years.

The ASA encourages all sleep services to become accredited, however it should be noted that accreditation is voluntary.

Yours sincerely,

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Chair, SDSAAC Committee

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President