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## Use of a CPCA Post Nominal

Current May 2025

Advertising of qualifications or memberships can provide the public with useful information about a practitioner's education and experience. It can help the public make informed decisions about accessing regulated health services. If a practitioner holds further or postgraduate qualifications, or has specific experience, or has completed specific courses it is acceptable to advertise that in an accurate and factual manner. It is also acceptable to refer to where the experience was gained or the qualification issued. Advertisers should ensure that abbreviations or post-nominal letters to indicate membership of a body or association are not misleading by implying the practitioner has more qualifications, skill or experience than is the case. (Reference 4.1.4.d Qualifications, Ahpra Guidelines for advertising a regulated health service).

Post nominals, as abbreviations to indicate a level of membership of a professional body should, ideally, be accompanied by further information that informs the public of the professional body to which they belong and to what extent that membership level pertains to. An Asterix (\*) next to the post-nominal (as in \*FCPCA, for example) is recommended, where the meaning of the Asterix (\*) provides the non-abbreviated information at the end of the paragraph, or page of text, etc., on which the post-nominal is located (i.e. Fellow of Cosmetic Physicians College of Australia).

To accurately and ethically present its members to the public, according to skillset, level of experience and their qualifications, **The CPCA has, therefore, set limitations for members advertising their college membership.** Please refer to the CPCA Advertising Guidelines for further information.

Only the following College membership classifications are permitted to use the relevant post nominal:

Life Members^	– FCPCA or Fellow CPCA
Fellows	– FCPCA or Fellow CPCA
International Fellows	– FCPCA (Intl.)
Honorary Members^	– FCPCA (Hon.)
Honorary International Fellows	– FCPCA (Hon. Intl.)
Retired Members^	– FCPCA (Ret.)

^Providing the Honorary or Life Member would otherwise be a Fellow.

Post nominals, as abbreviations of qualifications or professional body memberships, are placed immediately after or immediately below a person's printed name.

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Those who are Full Members may not use a post nominal but may mention their CPCA Membership on their business documents, in accordance with the CPCA Advertising Guidelines.

Corresponding Members, International Affiliates, Inactive Members are not permitted to mention their affiliation to the College on any digital platforms or in any documents. Refer CPCA Advertising Guidelines for more information.

Incorrect use of a post nominal by members of the College will bring disciplinary action by the College Council. Refusal to correct inappropriate use of post nominal or incorrect information about your relationship to the CPCA may lead to loss of membership at the discretion of the College Council.

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