

FAQs FOR PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY INSURANCE

Who needs to use professional indemnity insurance?

It applies to all podiatrists except those with non-practising registration and students.

What is Run-off cover?

Run-off cover means insurance that protects a podiatrist who has ceased a particular practice or business against claims arising out of activities that occurred when he or she was conducting that practice or business. It is possible for action to be taken against a podiatrist a considerable time after the incident took place; therefore, it is important that cover continues into the future.

This type of cover may be included in a PII policy or may need to be purchased separately.

How does the Board monitor PII arrangements?

Every year when a podiatrist renews registration, he or she will be required to make a declaration that he or she will not practise without appropriate professional indemnity insurance arrangements being in place and has not practised without professional indemnity insurance during the previous registration period.

What PII documentation do I need to retain?

Podiatrists with private PII arrangements must retain written advice from an approved insurer or insurance broker that PII has been issued or that a premium has been paid and accepted. This will usually be in the form of a Certificate of Currency.

If a podiatrist is covered by an employer or union, he or she will need to keep any PII documentation automatically issued to the podiatrist. If a podiatrist does not receive PII documentation usually, he or she will only need to seek it if requested in writing to do so by the Board.

What will the Board do if my PII arrangements lapse?

The Board is empowered to ensure that podiatrists only practise with PII arrangements in place. If a podiatrist is found to have practised podiatry without PII arrangements in place, the Board will consider appropriate disciplinary action.

What about Public liability insurance?

The Board's Registration Standard addresses professional indemnity insurance. However, podiatrists should also be aware of the importance of public liability insurance to cover injuries to patients or clients or members of the public on their premises.

What is an 'approved insurer'?

An approved insurer is any insurer authorised by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority to conduct new or renewal of insurance business in Australia.