

### Authority

This standard has been approved by the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council on 31 March 2010 pursuant to the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (2009)* (the National Law) with approval taking effect from 1 July 2010.

### Summary

All practising podiatrists must undertake continuing professional development (CPD). This standard sets out the minimum requirements for CPD for podiatrists.

Consumers of podiatric services have the right to expect that podiatrists will provide services in a competent and contemporary manner that meets best practice standards. Continuing professional development (CPD) is an interactive process to maintain, enhance and extend the practitioner's knowledge, expertise and competence throughout his or her career. CPD is an important component in the continued provision of safe and effective services.

### Scope of application

This standard applies to all registered practitioners. It does not apply to students and practitioners who have nonpractising registration.

### Requirements

1. All practising podiatrists must :
  - a) complete 20 hours of CPD per year; and
  - b) hold a current cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certificate that includes management of anaphylaxis and use of an Automated External Defibrillator from an Approved Training Organisation.
2. In addition, registered podiatrists with scheduled medicine endorsements must complete an additional 10 hours of CPD per year related to this scope of practice which complies with the requirements of the Board.
3. Podiatric surgeons must also:
  - a) complete an additional 20 hours of CPD per year related to this scope of practice as described in CPD guidelines issued by the Board, and
  - b) hold a current certificate in advanced life support from an approved training organisation.
4. Applicants who are registered part-way through a registration period must complete 5 hours of CPD for every three months of registration remaining in the

registration period plus the CPR requirements in 1(b) above.

5. CPD activities should be relevant to the practitioner's area of professional practice and have clear learning aims and objectives that meet the individual's requirements. CPD activities should also have a focus on aspects of podiatry practice.
6. Practitioners must keep written documentation of their CPD activities (a CPD portfolio) for a five-year period. The documentation must be available for audit by the Board.
7. Practitioners will be required to sign a declaration of compliance with this standard when renewing their registration each year.
8. The Board will conduct an annual audit of compliance with this standard by requiring a percentage of practitioners to submit evidence of their CPD activities.

### Exemptions

1. The Board may grant an exemption from the CPD requirements in exceptional circumstances.
2. The Board recognises that not all podiatrists transitioning to the national registration have been subject to CPD requirements. Accordingly, the initial period for complying with the requirements in points 1–4 above will be from 1 July 2010 until 30 November 2011 (i.e. the Board will apply the standard to applications for renewal from November 2011).

### Definitions

**Advanced life support** is basic life support with the addition of invasive techniques (e.g. defibrillation, advanced airway management, intravenous access and drug therapy) (Australian Resuscitation Council).

Approved training organisation means a training organisation approved by the Board.

**Basic life support** is the preservation or restoration of life by the establishment of and/or the maintenance of airway, breathing and circulation and related emergency care (Australian Resuscitation Council).

**Cardiopulmonary resuscitation** is the technique of rescue breathing combined with chest compressions, to temporarily maintain circulation to preserve brain function until specialised treatment is available (Australian Resuscitation Council).

**Continuing professional development** is the means by which members of the profession maintain, improve and broaden their knowledge, expertise and competence, and

develop the personal and professional qualities required throughout their professional lives.

### **References**

Podiatry Board of Australia guidelines on CPD will be available on the Board's website.

### **Review**

This standard will commence on 1 July 2010. The Board will review this standard at least every three years.