

Communique

Tenth meeting of the Podiatry Board of Australia 28 July 2010

At its tenth meeting, held in Melbourne, the Board met for the first time since the commencement of the national scheme on Thursday, 1 July. This Communiqué aims to inform stakeholders of the decisions of the Board.

Professional Indemnity Insurance Standards

Since the PII Standards were published, some issues have arisen about the implementation of the new PII requirements from government employers, insurance providers and brokers and individual practitioners. The Board has consequently determined to consider amendments to the Standard to clarify, specifically, claims-made and occurrence-based cover. The Board will consult on the revised standard and publish a final version on the website in due course.

National Call Centre

The National Call Centre continues to receive a high number of calls each day and AHPRA has invested more resources into answering and responding to queries as quickly as possible.

Registrants are encouraged to check the website first for answers to frequently asked questions (www.podiatryboard.gov.au).

The call centre number is: **1300 088 590**

Codes and Guidelines

The Board will also review its Guidelines for Podiatrists with Blood-Borne Infections after receiving helpful feedback. The revised Guideline will be finalised and republished.

The Board has held further discussions on the Advertising Guidelines for Podiatrists and will be developing and publishing relevant FAQs on this issue shortly.

State/Territory Based Drugs and Poisons Legislation

The Board will continue to work with the various jurisdictions to attempt to bring into line the various lists of drugs and poisons available to generally registered podiatrists, endorsed podiatrists and podiatric surgeons.

Prescription Pads for Endorsed Podiatrists

Podiatrists endorsed for scheduled medicines will soon be able to use a template for prescription pads from the Board's website. This template is currently being finalised and will be uploaded shortly.

The Podiatry Board of Australia is established under the *Health Practitioner Regulation (Administrative Arrangements) National Law Act 2008*. Australian Health Practitioners Registration Agency [AHPRA], is also established under this law to provide administrative assistance and to support the National Boards in exercising their functions.