

## Communique

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### Thirteenth meeting of the Podiatry Board of Australia 27 October 2010

#### Registration Renewals for Podiatrists

Registered podiatrists are notified by AHPRA when renewals are due. Registration renewals for podiatrists are due at different times as a result of renewal periods from the different states and territories that existed under previous laws, until the coordination of renewals on 30 November 2011. Importantly, under the National Law in existence since 1 July 2010, registrants are required to meet particular registration Standards including but not limited to requirements in the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) registration Standard. Under the National Law, and as *part* of the CPD requirements for podiatrists, registrants are required to hold a current cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certificate issued by Approved Training Organisation. The annual CPR training includes management of anaphylaxis and use of an Automated External Defibrillator .

The Board recognises that not all podiatrists who have transitioned under the National Law since 1 July 2010 have been subject to CPD requirements. Accordingly, the initial period for complying with the requirements listed at numbers 1-4 in the Guideline for Continuing Professional Development (available at [www.podiatryboard.gov.au/Registration-Standards.aspx](http://www.podiatryboard.gov.au/Registration-Standards.aspx)) will apply from 1 July 2010 until 30 November 2011. That is, the Board will apply the Standard to applications for renewal from November 2011, including the commitment to audits.

Therefore, whilst the Board expects that registrants will commence CPD from 1<sup>st</sup> July, they have a total of 17 months to 30 November 2011 to meet the registration Standard. Thereafter, the registration Standard will be applied annually.

AHPRA registration staff are aware of the transitional adjustments necessary for renewing podiatrists to 30 November 2011. Answers on the renewal form, particularly in relation to questions 6 and 7, indicating that applicants have not yet met the CPD registration standard will not necessarily preclude renewal of registration. Further information is available on the Board's website – [www.podiatryboard.gov.au](http://www.podiatryboard.gov.au).

All podiatrists are reminded, however, that from 30 November 2011, they will be required to meet this Standard and all other registration Standards. An audit of CPD activities including CPR will occur after the 30 November 2011.

The other registration Standards do not include a similar 'grandfathering' period and all podiatrists are required to meet them upon renewal of registration after 1 July 2010.

#### Guideline Reviews

##### Review of Guideline for Endorsement for Scheduled Medicines – Consultation Paper Published Now

Stakeholder consultation is now sought by the Board for a series of suggested amendments to the Guideline for Endorsement for Scheduled Medicines. Review of the Guideline has been undertaken as a result of progress made by the Board in terms of changes to programs of study, clarification of requirements for endorsement and the possibility of

amendment to State and Territory Drugs and Poisons Legislation. It is important to note that there has been no change to the registration Standard for Endorsement for Scheduled Medicines.

Interested parties are invited to submit comments on the Guideline by the close of business on **3 December 2010**. The document is available on the Board's website at [www.podiatryboard.gov.au](http://www.podiatryboard.gov.au).

### **Review of Guideline for Podiatrists with Blood-Borne Infections – Consultation Paper to be Published Shortly**

The Board has reviewed its Guideline for Podiatrists with Blood-Borne Infections to ensure consistency with the Commonwealth government's guidelines. At the time of publishing the Board's guideline on this subject, the Commonwealth was consulting on their guidelines. The government's guidelines have now been finalised, necessitating a review of the Board's guideline. Stakeholder input will be sought via a consultation process, shortly.

### **Approval of Programs of Study – Podiatric Surgery**

The programs of study approved by the Podiatry Board of Australia towards eligibility for application for the specialty of podiatric surgery are listed on the Board's website (available at [www.podiatryboard.gov.au](http://www.podiatryboard.gov.au)). At its 13<sup>th</sup> meeting the Board amended its list of approved programs of study to include a requirement for *Fellowship or eligibility for Fellowship* of the Australasian College of Podiatric Surgery (from the previous Western Australia wording for *membership or eligibility for membership of..*).

### **Acupuncture – Accreditation Standard**

The Board has joined the Australian Boards of Physiotherapy, Dental, Chiropractic and Osteopathy to develop of an accreditation Standard for acupuncture. Agreement amongst the Boards has been reached and the project will commence shortly. Further updates will be provided as this accreditation Standard develops. The draft Standard will be published for consultation in due course.

### **Website Updates**

#### **Application Notes and Information Pack for Endorsement for Scheduled Medicines**

Detailed information to assist podiatrists in applying for an endorsement for scheduled medicines is now published on the Board's website. The information contains formats and templates that are required to be used when making an application. AHPRA has also released the application form which must be used when applying for this endorsement.

All podiatrists are encouraged to check the Board's website regularly for updates and more useful information and links.

As always, the Board is keen to receive feedback from interested stakeholders - for instance, information you may wish to see included on the website. Feedback may be emailed to [natboards@ahpra.gov.au](mailto:natboards@ahpra.gov.au).

#### **Still have questions?**

If you are unable to find answer in the frequently asked questions at the website ([www.podiatryboard.gov.au](http://www.podiatryboard.gov.au)) the AHPRA call centre number is: **1300 088 590**