



## Media release

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### Podiatry Board Guidelines Aim To Align Prescribing List

The role of the Podiatry Board of Australia is to protect the public.

Under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009 (the National Law) as in force in each state and territory, the Board has the power to recognise particular areas of expertise and to grant an endorsement on the registration of practitioners to reflect this.

The Board is currently consulting on Guidelines for endorsement of scheduled medicines, which allow only appropriately qualified podiatrists to prescribe certain scheduled medicines in line with the drugs and poisons legislation in place in each state and territory.

The proposed changes to the Guidelines align the list of already approved scheduled medicines in the interests of national consistency, but do not expand the list of approved scheduled medicines beyond those already approved for prescribing under existing state and territory drugs and poisons legislation.

The Podiatry Board of Australia Chair, Mr Jason Warnock, said the requirements for endorsement for scheduled medicines were stringent.

"Endorsed podiatrists are well skilled to prescribe the drugs that State and Territory governments around Australia have already determined can safely be prescribed by appropriately qualified practitioners," Mr Warnock said.

"The process to gain an endorsement on registration is thorough and rigorous. Only practitioners who are suitably trained, qualified and experienced to provide safe podiatric care with the use of scheduled medicines will be granted this endorsement," he said.

"The Board takes extremely seriously its primary role of protecting the public," Mr Warnock said.

The Board is consulting widely on these Guidelines to provide an opportunity for organisations and individuals with different points of view to share their perspective with the Board.

"We look forward to receiving a submission from the Australian Medical Association on this important issue," Mr Warnock said.

#### *For more information*

- Visit [www.podiatryboard.gov.au](http://www.podiatryboard.gov.au) under *Contact us* to lodge an online enquiry form
- For registration enquiries: 1300 419 495 (within Australia) +61 7 3666 4911 (overseas callers)
- For media enquiries: (03) 8708 9200