

Communique

Fourteenth and Fifteenth meetings of the Podiatry Board of Australia

24 November and 15 December 2010

Continuing Professional Development requirements for podiatrists

Under the National Law, registered podiatrists 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. An Approved Training Organisation is a Registered Training Organisation.

The requirements are that registered podiatrists have a current CPR certificate that includes:

- a) Perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation
- b) Management of anaphylaxis
- c) Automated external defibrillation.

The requirements are met via the *Provide Basic Emergency Life Support* course. However, the **Resuscitation Council** states that the *Perform CPR* course component needs to be successfully completed annually, despite the *Provide Basic Emergency Life Support* course having a three year currency certificate. The simplest solution is for registrants to consider undertaking the *Provide Emergency Life Support* course annually.

The requirements are met via the *Provide Basic Emergency Life Support* course. The **Resuscitation Council** confirms that the *Provide Basic Emergency Life Support* course certificate is current three years, however to maintain the currency of the certificate, the *Perform CPR* course must be successfully completed annually.

The simplest solution is for registrants to consider undertaking the *Provide Emergency Life Support* course annually.

Another alternative cycle may be as follows:

Year 1: Successfully complete the *Provide Basic Emergency Life Support* course

Year 2: successfully complete *Perform CPR*

Year 3: successfully complete *Perform CPR*

Year 4: Successfully complete the *Provide Basic Emergency Life Support* course, to commence the cycle again.

The *Perform CPR*, training unit code HLTCP201A, provides the necessary cardiopulmonary resuscitation training, in line with the Australian Resuscitation Council guidelines.

As explained in the Board's Guideline on Continuing Professional Development (CPD), of which the CPR component is a part, registrants are not required to meet the CPD requirements entirely until 30 November 2011. This settling-in period was designed to allow those registrants from states and territories who had not previously undertaken CPD to get up to

speed with the requirements. However, the Board expects registrants to have commenced CPD now and so be completely compliant by 30 November, 2011. The CPD requirements including the CPR component will be required to be current upon registration renewal at 30 November 2011.

There are instructions on the Board's website for registrants renewing prior to 30 November 2011 to assist them in completing the AREN09 Renewal Form when compliance with CPD may not be exact until 30 November 2011.

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.

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

Stakeholder consultation was sought by the Board regarding its review of the Guideline for Endorsement for Scheduled Medicines. The Board wishes to thank those individuals and organisations who took the time to consider this complex subject and submit feedback. The submissions received are listed on the Board's website under Past Consultations. The Board's review included a consolidation of all of the drugs and poisons previously listed by the various jurisdictions into the National Drugs List.

The Board has detailed information on its website to assist registered podiatrists in applying for an endorsement for scheduled medicines via the two available pathways.

The finalised ESM Guideline will be published on the Board's website in the coming weeks.

Review of Guideline for Podiatrists with Blood-Borne Infections – Consultation Paper seeking submissions

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 is sought via a consultation process and the closing date is **25 February 2011**. All registrants and stakeholders are encouraged to provide input into the revised Guideline, available on the Board's website under Current Consultations.

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. New information has been added to this information package to provide additional clarity to assist registrants with his/her application. Updates to this document will occur when the Board identifies from applications

The Board is established under the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act (National Law)* as in force in each state and territory. This Communiqué aims to inform stakeholders of the decisions of the Board.

received that additional clarity is required. 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.

Information regarding new graduate registrations

AHPRA has published information on the Board's website explaining the 'fast track' registration process for newly graduated podiatrists so that they may commence work as registered podiatrists with minimal delay. This information is included under the News section of the website.

Still have questions?

If you are unable to find answer in the frequently asked questions at the website (www.podiatryboard.gov.au) the AHPRA call centre number is: **1300 419 495**

The Podiatry Board of Australia wishes to thank its stakeholders for their valued contributions during this start-up year of AHPRA and looks forward to forging new relationships and strengthening existing relationships with you in the New Year.

Season's Greetings.