

Communiqué

Meeting of the Podiatry Board of Australia held on 19 October 2011

This communiqué highlights key issues from the Board's last meeting. At each meeting, the Board considers a wide range of issues, many of which are routine and are not included in this communiqué.

Roadshows in 2012

The Board usually holds its monthly board meetings in Melbourne, however in 2012 the Board is planning to hold meetings in other capital cities as follows:

- March 2012 - Hobart
- May 2012 - Perth
- October 2012 - Brisbane
- December 2012 - Adelaide

This will provide an opportunity for the Board to host forums to; meet podiatrists and students; and provide information and answer questions on the national registration and accreditation scheme.

The Board will publish confirmed dates and further details about these meetings closer to the time.

Registration standards for limited registration and Guidelines for supervision of podiatrists

Under the National Law the Board may develop and recommend to the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council (the Ministerial Council), registration standards to deal with issues relevant to the eligibility of individuals for registration in the podiatry profession or the suitability of individuals to competently and safely practise podiatry. The Board may also develop and approve codes and guidelines to provide guidance to the profession.

The National Law requires the Board to undertake wide-ranging consultation on the content of proposed registration standards, codes or guidelines.

The Board is developing the following registration standards and guideline, which will be released for wide- ranging public consultation later this year:

- Limited registration for postgraduate training or supervised practice
- Limited registration in the public interest
- Limited registration for teaching or research
- Guidelines for Supervision

The consultation documents will be published on the Board's website later this year and the Board encourages stakeholders to provide feedback when the documents are released. The registration standards and guideline will be finalised after all submissions have been considered. The registration standards will then be referred to Ministerial Council for approval. The guideline will be published when it has been approved by the Board.

Consultation on definition of practice

The Board is currently undertaking public consultation in relation to the definition of 'practice' used by the 10 health professions regulated under the National Law. A consultation paper has been published on the Board's website at www.podiatryboard.gov.au and the Board is seeking feedback on the consultation paper by 2 December 2011.

Seven of the 10 National Boards (Chiropractic, Dental, Medical, Optometry, Osteopathy, Podiatry and Physiotherapy) are currently undertaking this consultation.

Newsletter

The Board will be publishing a newsletter in October and April each year. The first edition will soon be emailed to all registrants who have provided their email address to AHPRA. It will also be published on the Board's website. The newsletter aims to update registrants on current issues relating to the registration and regulation of the profession.

Renewal of registration

All registered podiatrists are required to renew their registration by 30 November 2011.

Registrants who have provided AHPRA with their email address will have received email notices about the renewal of their registration. Hard copy renewal notices will be posted to registrants shortly. Practitioners can renew their registration online and are encouraged to renew early and to renew online.

Practitioners should ensure that they have provided AHPRA with their current contact details, including an email address to ensure that they receive important renewal information.

To renew registration online, update contact details or check registration status, you need to go to www.ahpra.gov.au; and log-in to Online Services by following the prompts. You will need to use your unique contact number (User ID). Your User ID is not your registration number. If you do not have your User ID, complete an online enquiry form, selecting 'User ID' as the category of enquiry or by calling 1300 419 495.

Under the National Law, podiatrists who do not renew registration within one month of their registration expiry date must be removed from the National Register of Podiatrists. Their registration will lapse and they will not be able to practise podiatry in Australia until a new application is approved by the Board.

CPD Reminder

Practitioners must ensure that they have met the Board's CPD requirements by the time they renew their registration, which is due on 30 November 2011.

Practitioners are required to declare on the renewal of registration form whether during the preceding registration period they have met the Board's CPD requirements. The Board may refuse to renew a practitioner's registration if the CPD requirements have not been met.

The Board's requirements for CPD are set out in the *Continuing Professional Development Registration Standard*, which is available on the Board's website under the Registration Standards tab. The Board's *Guidelines for continuing professional development* and FAQ's for CPD are also on the Board's website under the Policies, Codes and Guidelines tab.

Further information

Further information about the Board can be found on the Board's website at: www.podiatryboard.gov.au and practitioners are encouraged to refer to the site for news and updates on Policy and Guidelines affecting their profession.

Jason Warnock
Chair
Podiatry Board of Australia

26 October 2011

The Board is established under the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act* (National Law) as in force in each state and territory.