

Communiqué

Meeting of the Podiatry Board of Australia held on 14 December 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.

Renewal of registration

The Board was pleased to note that 93% of podiatrists had lodged their application for renewal of registration by the due date of 30 November 2011.

Podiatrists who have not yet applied to renew their registration have until 31 December 2011 to lodge their application. A late fee applies to these applications in addition to the registration renewal fee.

Under the National Law, podiatrists who do not renew registration by 31 December 2011 must be removed from the National Register of Podiatrists. Their registration will lapse and they will not be able to practise in Australia until a new application is approved.

Further information on renewal of registration can be found on the Board's website at www.podiatryboard.gov.au

Endorsement for scheduled medicines – Log sheets

The Board's requirements for endorsement for scheduled medicines are set out in the Board's *Endorsement for scheduled medicines registration standard* and explained in the Guideline and Information Package for Endorsement for Scheduled Medicines.

A podiatrist who wishes to apply to the Board to have their registration endorsed for scheduled medicines may follow one of two pathways (Pathway 1 or Pathway 2) to meet the Board's requirements for an application for endorsement for scheduled medicines.

Pathway 2 requires among other things, the completion of 40 sessions of supervised practice in a 12 month period as demonstrated by the completion of 40 log sheets under supervision by a registered podiatrist with an endorsement for scheduled medicines or a medical practitioner.

As explained in the Information Package the 40 Log Sheets must cover a diverse range of case studies and clinical settings involving scheduled medicines with the management of podiatric conditions. Whilst not all clinical experience must involve foot pathology, all of the Log Sheets must involve podiatric pathology.

The Board has decided that further guidance is required to assist podiatrists to complete their log sheets and has issued a policy statement to include the following information:

- As part of the application for the endorsement of scheduled medicines, you are required to provide a suite of 40 log sheets from a diverse range of case studies and clinical settings involving scheduled medicines with the management of podiatric conditions.

- Whilst not all clinical experience must relate to foot pathology, all (40) of the Log Sheets must relate to podiatric pathology:
 - (a) At least 35 of the 40 Log Sheets must relate to conditions of foot and ankle;
 - (b) Not more than 5 Log Sheets may relate to conditions affecting the area of lower limb above the ankle; and
 - (c) At least 20 Log Sheets must include more than one class of drugs from the National Podiatry Scheduled Medicines List.
- The Podiatrist is required to present sufficient information in each Log Sheet to satisfy the Supervisor and the Board that the objectives of the education sessions are being met (as per Certification of Completion of Supervised Practice).

Forum for podiatrists in Hobart

The Board is hosting a forum for podiatrists in Hobart on the evening of Friday 23 March 2012. This will provide an opportunity for Tasmanian podiatrists to meet members of the Board and discuss issues relating to the registration and regulation of podiatrists under the National Law. The forum has been timed to coincide with an APodA (Tas) CPD event that is being held in Hobart on Saturday 24 March 2012 and the Board hopes that as many podiatrists as possible will be able to attend the Board's forum.

Further information regarding the forum including the venue and time will be published in the New Year.

Season's Greetings

The Board would like to wish all podiatrists and stakeholders a safe and happy holiday season and looks forward to working together in 2012.

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

22 December 2011