

Communiqué

Meeting of the Podiatry Board of Australia held on 18 April 2012

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.

Forum for podiatrists in Perth

The Board is hosting a forum for podiatrists in Perth from 7:00pm to 8:30pm on Thursday 24 May 2012 at the Conference Centre at St John of God Hospital in Subiaco.

The address for the forum is Conference Centre (Level 3), Subiaco Clinic, 25 McCourt St, Subiaco WA.

The forum will provide an opportunity for the Board to meet Western Australian practitioners and provide information and answer questions on the national registration and accreditation scheme.

Western Australian practitioners who have provided their email address have been sent an invitation from the Board to the forum via email. The Board hopes that as many Western Australian podiatrists as possible will be able to attend the Board's forum and encourages them to RSVP to the email invitation as soon as possible.

CPD - new codes for CPR national training courses

As part of the Board's continuing professional development (CPD) requirements as set out in the Board's CPD registration standard, podiatrists must hold a current cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certificate that includes management of anaphylaxis and use of an Automated External Defibrillator from a Registered Training Organisation (RTO). Podiatric surgeons must hold a current certificate in advanced life support from an RTO.

The Board's *Guidelines for continuing professional development* contain details, including the course codes, of the recommended Health Training Packages (training packages) which cover these requirements.

The course codes for the recommended training packages have recently been changed by the organisation that oversees these training packages as follows:

- The recommended training package which covers the minimum requirements podiatrists with general registration [CPR; management of anaphylaxis; and use of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED)] is called *Provide Basic Emergency Life Support*. The code for this training package has been changed from HLTFA201A to HLTFA201B
- The following training packages include the *Provide Basic Emergency Life Support* content as well as other information and these courses are also acceptable:
 - *Apply First Aid*. The code for this training package has been changed from HLTFA301B to HLTFA301C.

- *Apply Advanced First Aid*. The code for this training package has been changed from HLTF402B to HLTF402C.
- *Apply Advanced Resuscitation Techniques*. The code for this training package has been changed from HLTF404A to HLTF404B.
- The recommended Health Training Package for podiatric surgeons, who are required to have a certificate in advanced life support is *Apply Advanced Resuscitation Techniques*. The code for this training package has been changed from *HLTF404A* to *HLTF404B*.
- The CPR component must be renewed annually and *Perform CPR* is recommended as the annual refresher course for CPR only. The code for this training package has been changed from HLTCPR201A to HLTCPR201B

Although the codes have changed, the content of the courses are essentially the same.

The Board will accept certificates from training packages with the new codes as well as training packages with the superseded codes.

More information on the training packages and RTO's can be found on the Training.gov.au (TGA) website at <http://training.gov.au>. TGA is the official National Register of information on Training Packages, Qualifications, Courses, Units of Competency and Registered Training Organisations (RTOs).

The Board's *Continuing Professional Development Registration Standard*, is available on the Board's website www.podiatryboard.gov.au 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.

Returning to practice after an absence

When returning to practice after an absence, practitioners are required to comply with the requirements of the Board's *Recency of practice registration standard*.

The Board has published an information sheet to provide information to practitioners returning to practice after an absence. The Board has also published a template plan for professional development and re-entry to practice which makes provision for the elements that should be included in a plan for professional development and re-entry to practice.

These documents can be found on the Board's website under the Policies, Codes and Guidelines tab in the FAQ's and fact sheets section.

Congratulations

The Board has congratulated Mrs Geraldine Treloar who was recognised in the 2012 Australia Day Honours. Mrs Treloar was awarded an OAM for her service to podiatry profession.

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

1 May 2012