

Communiqué

Meeting of the Podiatry Board of Australia held on 27 March 2013

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

Stakeholder forum in Adelaide

The Board is hosting a forum for practitioners in Adelaide on the evening of Thursday 2 May 2013.

Time: 6:30pm – 8:00pm.

Venue: University of South Australia (UniSA) City East Campus
Centenary Building,
Room 26, 6th Floor
North Terrace, Adelaide

All South Australian podiatrists who have provided their email address to AHPRA have been invited by email to the forum. Further details about the forum are published on the Board's website in the *News* section. Light refreshments will be served and all interested podiatrists are encouraged to attend.

Review of registration standards, guidelines and codes

The Board's registration standards, guidelines and codes that have been in place since the commencement of the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme) on 1 July 2010 are currently being reviewed. The Board, together with the other National Boards has commenced public consultation on the following documents:

- Guideline for advertising*
- Podiatry code of conduct for registered health practitioners*
- Mandatory notification guidelines and*
- draft Social media policy.*

The consultation process provides an opportunity for registrants and other stakeholders to provide feedback on these documents. The consultation documents are published on the Board's website at <http://www.podiatryboard.gov.au/News/Current-Consultations.aspx>

Other standards and guidelines, including the Board's Recency of practice registration standard; Continuing professional development registration standard and guideline; and Endorsement for scheduled medicines registration standard and guideline will be published for consultation later in the year and you will be notified when they are released.

Accreditation and approval of podiatry programs of study

One of the objectives of the National Law is to facilitate the provision of high quality education and training of health practitioners. The National Law sets out the roles of the Board and its appointed accreditation authority, the Australian and New Zealand Podiatry Accreditation Council (ANZPAC), in relation to the accreditation and approval of education providers and programs of study for the podiatry profession.

ANZPAC is responsible for accrediting individual programs of study after it is reasonably satisfied that the program of study:

- meets an approved accreditation standard, or
- substantially meets an approved accreditation standard and the imposition of conditions on the approval will ensure the program meets the standard within a reasonable time.

ANZPAC can also refuse to accredit a program of study. ANZPAC is required to give the Board a report after it decides to accredit a program of study (with or without conditions). After being given an accreditation report, the Board may approve, or refuse to approve, the accredited program of study as providing a qualification for the purposes of registration. An approval may be granted subject to conditions.

Approval of program of study at Charles Sturt University

The Board approved until 30 January 2018 the accredited Bachelor of Podiatry program of study at Charles Sturt University as providing a qualification for the purpose of registration as a podiatrist.

Approval of program of study at Central Queensland University

ANZPAC determined that the Bachelor of Podiatry Practice program of study at Central Queensland University substantially meets the approved accreditation standard and imposed conditions on the accreditation that will ensure the program meets the standard within a reasonable time.

The Board approved until 30 January 2014 the accredited Bachelor of Podiatry Practice programs of study at Central Queensland University as providing a qualification for the purpose of registration as a podiatrist subject to conditions that mirror the conditions imposed by ANZPAC on their accreditation of the program.

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.

Cathy Loughry
Chair
Podiatry Board of Australia

12 April 2013