



Communiqué

Meeting of the Podiatry Board of Australia held on 3 May 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.

The Board held its meeting in South Australia at the Adelaide AHPRA office.

Stakeholder forum in Adelaide

While in Adelaide, the Board held a forum on the evening of 2 May 2013, which was well attended by local podiatrists.

The Board welcomed the opportunity to meet South Australian podiatrists and discuss issues relating to the registration and regulation of podiatrists under the National Law.

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>. The consultation closes on **30 May 2013**.

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 programs of study in podiatric therapeutics

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 programs of study at the University of Western Australia

The Board approved the following programs of study at the University of Western Australia as providing a qualification in podiatric therapeutics for the purpose of an endorsement for scheduled medicines in the podiatry profession:

- Master of Podiatric Medicine (MPodM)
- Doctor of Podiatry (DPod); and
- Doctor of Clinical Podiatry (DClinPod)

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

15 May 2013