



Communiqué

Meeting of the Podiatry Board of Australia held on 30 August 2013

This communiqué highlights important 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.

NRAS 2013 combined meeting

The Board held its meeting at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre together with the 13 other National Boards who are part of the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (NRAS).

The meeting coincided with the fourth annual NRAS conference attended by all National Boards, the Agency Management Committee, AHPRA leadership teams, representatives of NSW Councils, accreditation authorities and regulatory colleagues from New Zealand.

The purpose of the combined meeting is to encourage learning through sharing ideas, innovation and networking.

Upcoming consultations

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.

As part of the review process the Board will release the revised documents for consultation which provides an opportunity for registrants and other stakeholders to provide feedback on these documents.

The Board, together with other National Boards will soon be commencing public consultation on the following two registration standards that are common, or largely common, to all National Boards:

- English Language Skills Registration Standard (largely common), and
- Criminal History Registration Standard (common).

Other standards and guidelines, including the Board's *Recency of practice registration standard*; *Continuing professional development registration standard* and guidelines; and *Endorsement for scheduled medicines registration standard* and guidelines; *Infection control guidelines*; and *Guidelines for podiatrists working with podiatric assistants* will be progressively published for consultation later in the year and you will be notified when they are released.

Stakeholder forum in Canberra

The Board is hosting a forum for podiatry practitioners in Canberra on the evening of Thursday 24 October 2013.

Time: 6.00pm – 7.30pm

Venue: Mantra on Northbourne
84 Northbourne Avenue
Canberra.

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

We will soon be sending an email invitation to the forum to all ACT podiatrists who have provided their email address.

The forum will provide an opportunity for ACT podiatrists to meet members of the Board and discuss issues relating to the registration and regulation of podiatrists under the National Law. Light refreshments will be served and all interested podiatrists are encouraged to attend.

CPD Reminder

Practitioners are required to regularly participate in continuing professional development (CPD) that is relevant to their scope of practice. Podiatrists with general registration are required to complete a minimum of 20 hours of CPD per year as well as hold current a CPR certificate which includes management of anaphylaxis and use of an automatic external defibrillator (AED).

Podiatric surgeons must complete an additional 20 hours of CPD per year related to this scope of practice and hold a current certificate in advanced life support. Practitioners with an endorsement for scheduled medicines must also complete an additional 10 hours of CPD per year related to the use of scheduled medicines in podiatry practice.

The Board's CPD requirements must be met by the time practitioners renew their registration, which is due on 30 November 2013.

When you renew your registration, you are required to declare on the renewal of registration form whether during the preceding registration period you 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 published 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.

The Board encourages practitioners to familiarise themselves with these documents which clearly explain the Board's CPD requirements. Practitioners need to ensure that they are progressing towards meeting these requirements by the time they renew their registration, if they have not already met them.

Further information

Further information about the Board can be found on our 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 September 2013