



Communiqué

Meeting of the Podiatry Board of Australia held on 25 September 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.

Registration Renewal

More than 3,800 podiatrists with general, specialist or non-practising registration are due to renew their registration with the Board by **30 November 2013**. Registrants will have received information from AHPRA about renewal of registration.

The Board encourages practitioners to renew their registration early and to renew online. Online renewal is quick and easy. There is a late fee for renewal applications received during December.

Under the National Law, if you do not apply to renew your registration within one month of your registration expiry date your registration will lapse and you will not be able to practise in Australia until a new application for registration is approved. Your name must be removed from the Register of Podiatrists (and specialist register if you are a podiatric surgeon).

If you experience difficulties using the online renewal service you can phone the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) Customer Service Team on 1300 419 495 and a team member will talk you through the process.

It is important that you make sure AHPRA has your current contact information so that you don't miss email and hard copy reminders to renew.

To update your contact details using AHPRA's secure online services, you can go to the AHPRA website at <http://www.ahpra.gov.au/> then:

- go to the bottom of the home page
- click on *Update Contact Details* under Services for Practitioners
- use your user ID and secure password, and
- follow the prompts.

Quarterly data

One of the benefits of the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme is that there are now national registers where information is published about every registered health practitioner in Australia. It is now possible to produce accurate reports about the number of practitioners registered in each profession in Australia.

In 2012, the Board began publishing quarterly data profiling Australia's podiatry workforce, including a number of statistical breakdowns about registrants such as type of registration held, principal place of practice, endorsements and registrant age. The latest quarterly report is now available on the Board's website under 'news' and 'statistics'. All the Boards publish similar information about their health profession which is available on each Board's website.

Newsletter

The Board will soon be publishing its second newsletter for the year. A copy will be emailed to all podiatrists and podiatric surgeons who have provided AHPRA with an email address and posted to the remainder.

Further information

Further information about the Board can be found on the website at www.podiatryboard.gov.au and practitioners are encouraged to refer to the site for news and updates on policies and guidelines affecting their profession.

Cathy Loughry
Chair
Podiatry Board of Australia
1 October 2013