



Communiqué

April 2016

The Podiatry Board of Australia (Board) meets each month to consider and decide on matters related to its regulatory function under the National Law¹ and within the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme).

This communiqué highlights key matters from the Board's meeting as well as other important information.

This communiqué aims to inform stakeholders of the work of the Board and matters regarding the National Scheme. Please forward it on to colleagues and employees who may be interested in its content.

April 2016 meeting

The Board held its meeting in New South Wales at the Sydney office of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA).

The Board met with some of its local stakeholders to coincide with the board meeting in Sydney. This provided an opportunity for the Board to discuss issues regarding the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme) and local practice.

New member

The Board welcomed new member Julia Kurowski, a practitioner member from Western Australia, to her first meeting.

Quarterly registration data

The Board publishes quarterly data profiling Australia's podiatry workforce.

At December 2015, there were a total of 4,576 registered podiatrists and podiatric surgeons. Of these 4,449 held general registration; 30 held both general registration and specialist registration; 71 had their registration endorsed for scheduled medicines and 97 held non-practising registration.

The quarterly registration data at December 2015 for the podiatry profession are published on the Board's website under [About/Statistics](#). The report includes a number of statistical breakdowns.

Podiatry regulation at work in Australia, 2014/15

The Board has released its report for 2014/15.

During 2014/15 the Board's focus was on building an evidence base to inform regulatory decision-making into the future. This included analysis of notifications received about podiatrists and podiatric surgeons since the start of the National Scheme and a survey about podiatry practice in Australia, including emerging and future challenges for podiatry practice and regulation. The Board also held a roundtable with key podiatry stakeholders across Australia to greater inform and support the Board's regulatory decision-making. A copy of the report can be downloaded from the [Board's website](#).

¹ The Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory (the National Law).

Quarterly performance reports released

AHPRA and the National Boards, including the Podiatry Board, have released new information about their performance in each state and territory to improve transparency and accountability.

The comprehensive information and data has been published on the [AHPRA website](#) to help the community and health practitioners better understand what AHPRA and the National Boards do and how.

The quarterly performance reports include data specific to each state and territory for the period October to December 2015 and covers AHPRA and the National Boards' main areas of activity in implementing the National Scheme.

Further information

Practitioners are responsible for keeping up to date with the Board's expectations about their professional obligations. Further information about the Board can be found on our [website](#) and practitioners are encouraged to refer to the site for news and updates on policies and guidelines affecting the podiatry profession.

For more information about registration, notifications or other matters relevant to the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme please refer to the information published on www.ahpra.gov.au. Alternatively, contact AHPRA by an [online enquiry form](#) or phone 1300 419 495.

Cathy Loughry
Chair
Podiatry Board of Australia
16 May 2016