



Communiqué

March 2018

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

This communiqué highlights any key matters from the Board's March 2018 meeting as well as other important information.

The Board held its March 2018 meeting by teleconference.

Scheduled review of accreditation assignments

National Boards and the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) have started a process to consider accreditation arrangements from mid-2019, when the current term of assignment of accreditation functions ends.

The National Law sets out the accreditation functions in the National Scheme. These include developing accreditation standards, accrediting programs of study against approved accreditation standards and assessing overseas qualified practitioners.

Public consultation on the existing accreditation arrangements is expected to start during April 2018 for around four weeks. More information will be published on the AHPRA and National Board websites in coming weeks.

Read the full [news item](#).

Quarterly data profiling Australia's podiatry workforce published

The data for the October to December 2017 quarter is published on the Board's website under [About>Statistics](#). The report includes a number of statistical breakdowns.

At 31 December 2017, there were a total of 4,999 registered podiatrists and podiatric surgeons. Of these 4,850 held general registration; 31 held both general and specialist registration; and 118 held non-practising registration. 86 practitioners had their registration endorsed for scheduled medicines.

Podiatry profession specific annual report summary for 2016/17 published

The profession specific summary provides a snapshot of the podiatry profession as at 30 June 2017, and includes the number of applications for registration, and segmentation of the registrant base by age, gender, registration type and principal place of practice.

Notifications information includes the number of complaints or concerns received, matters opened and closed during the year, types of complaint, monitoring and compliance and matters involving immediate action.

To download this report, or to view the main 2016/17 annual report, visit the [AHPRA website](#).

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

Further information

The Board publishes a range of information for podiatrists and podiatric surgeons on its [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.

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Cathy Loughry
Chair
Podiatry Board of Australia
9 April 2018