

# Communiqué

# February 2017 meeting of the Chiropractic Board of Australia

The Chiropractic Board of Australia (the Board) is established under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory (the National Law).

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

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

The February 2017 meeting was held face to face in the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) National Office in Melbourne.

## **Macquarie University**

The Board considered advice about a number of alternative pathways at Macquarie University to the award of qualifications that are equivalent to the current Bachelor of Chiropractic Science/Master of Chiropractic approved program at Macquarie University.

Section 53(b) of the National Law<sup>1</sup> enables an individual who holds a qualification the Board considers to be substantially equivalent, or based on similar competencies, to a Board-approved program of study to apply for registration.

The Board has approved a number of these qualifications as substantially equivalent to the current Bachelor of Chiropractic Science/Master of Chiropractic approved program at Macquarie University. A list of these can be found on the Board's website, see *Accreditation* section of <u>www.chiropracticboard.gov.au</u>.

#### **Audit**

Each year at renewal chiropractors have to make declarations about their compliance with mandatory registration standards. AHPRA and the Board have a nationally consistent approach to auditing chiropractors to verify those declarations.

A random sample of chiropractors has been selected and those practitioners will receive an audit notice in the mail from AHPRA in the coming months. It includes a checklist that outlines what supporting documentation is required to demonstrate that you meet the standard(s) being audited.

Read more about audit on the Board's website.

#### NSW chiropractor who claimed cancer cure convicted in landmark case

A New South Wales chiropractor has been convicted of false advertising after he claimed to be able to prevent, treat and cure cancer in his advertising.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory (the National Law).

Dr Hance Limboro was sentenced after he pleaded guilty to 13 charges and was convicted and fined \$29,500 by the court and ordered to pay AHPRA's legal costs. He was fined for using testimonials in his advertising, which is not permitted when advertising regulated health services.

Dr Limboro was convicted of unlawfully advertising a regulated health service and using testimonials under the National Law. <u>Read the full news item.</u>

#### **Quarterly registration data**

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

The quarterly registration data at December 2016 for the chiropractic profession is published on the Board's website under <u>About the Board>Statistics</u>. The report includes a number of statistical breakdowns.

#### Are your contact details up-to-date?

It is important that your contact details are up-to-date to receive renewal reminders from AHPRA and information from the Board. You can check your details via the <u>Login icon</u> at the top right of the AHPRA website. Email accounts need to be set to receive communications from AHPRA and the Board to avoid misdirection to an account junk box.

#### Conclusion

The National Board publishes a range of information about registration and the National Board's expectations of practitioners on its website at <u>www.chiropracticboard.gov.au</u> or <u>www.ahpra.gov.au</u>.

For more information or help with questions about your registration please send an <u>online enquiry form</u> or contact AHPRA on 1300 419 495.

### **Dr Wayne Minter AM**

Chiropractor Chair Chiropractic Board of Australia **17 February 2017**