

Communiqué

April 2016 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.

Care of children

The Board noted that the care of children by chiropractors has attracted some interest in the media recently. In October 2015 the Board released a <u>position statement on paediatric care</u>. In that statement the Board made clear that chiropractors have a responsibility to practise in an evidence based and patient-centred manner and also to recognise and work within the limits of their competence and scope of practice.

The Board also drew chiropractors' attention to section 3.7 of the *Code of conduct* which sets out the Board's expectations about caring for children and young people.

The Board expects chiropractors to ensure that their clinical practice is consistent with current evidence and best practice approaches. Chiropractors were also reminded to be conscious of additional needs and requirements in caring for children including ensuring that all care and treatment is suitable to the age, presentation and development of the patient.

At all times, practitioners must ensure that the best interest and wellbeing of the patient are placed first.

Audits

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 will receive an audit notice in the mail from AHPRA. It includes a checklist that outlines what supporting documentation is required to demonstrate that you meet the standard(s) being audited.

Quarterly performance reports released

AHPRA and the National Boards, including the Chiropractic 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 <u>AHPRA website</u> 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.

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 www.chiropracticboard.gov.au or www.ahpra.gov.au.

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