



Communiqué

Twelfth meeting of the Chiropractic Board of Australia 22 September 2010

The Chiropractic Board of Australia (the Board) is established under the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009* (National Law).

Meeting with New Zealand Chiropractic Board

The Board met with representatives of the New Zealand Chiropractic Board (Dr Sandeep Bansal, Deputy Chairman and Ms Debby Ramsay, Registrar). The meeting discussed issues of mutual interest, including requirements for continuing professional development, recency of practice and Trans Tasman Mutual Recognition.

Standards for limited registration

The Board finalised draft registration standards for limited registration in the public interest and limited registration for teaching and research for public consultation. The Consultation Paper on the draft registration standards will be published shortly on the Board's website at www.chiropracticboard.gov.au.

Application forms for limited registration in the public interest and limited registration for teaching and research are now available on the Board's website together with information about fees for limited registration.

Consultation framework

A draft consultation framework has been developed for all National Boards, drawing on initial work by the Chiropractic Board of Australia. The Board will consult about the draft framework once it has been revised to incorporate comments from all Boards.

Does your website meet the Board's guidelines?

The Board reminds all chiropractors to review their advertising including their websites as a priority to ensure that the content meets the advertising requirements of the National Law and the provisions of the Guidelines on Advertising. There are criminal penalties for breaching section 133 of the National Law, which is set out in the attachment to this communiqué. The Advertising Guidelines are common across the 10 regulated health professions and are published on the Board's website at www.chiropracticboard.gov.au.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

The Board has recently published CPD Guidelines which require practitioners' formal learning activities to be assessed and approved by a Board-approved body (including quantum of hours). The Board has approved the Chiropractors' Association of Australia (National) Limited (CAAN) and the Chiropractic and Osteopathic College of Australasia (COCA) as the approved bodies to assess and approve formal learning activities for CPD from 1 October 2010.

On 22 September, the Board endorsed the process developed by CAAN and COCA to assess formal learning activities. Details of the final assessment process are published on the Board's website at www.chiropracticboard.gov.au.

Compliance timeframes

The Board is phasing in its CPD requirements. When chiropractors renew in the first year of the national scheme, they do not have to declare that they have met the requirements for 25 hours CPD and a current senior first aid certificate. Instead, chiropractors will be asked to declare that they intend to meet the first aid and pro rata CPD requirements during the period of registration until they next renew.

The Board is also providing chiropractors with extra time to complete the CPD requirements during the first renewal period. Chiropractors will be able to count CPD hours completed between 1 July 2010 and 30 November 2011 towards their declaration of compliance for the period 1 December 2010 to 30 November 2011. In future years, chiropractors will need to meet the requirements during the 12-month annual registration period. Chiropractors will need to hold a current first aid certificate when they renew for the period 1 December 2011 to 30 November 2012.

Communicating with you

The Board is continuing to collect email addresses from registered chiropractors to enable efficient future communication from the Board. When you receive your user id and password from AHPRA, please log in and add your email address to your contact details, so we can communicate with you regularly. The Board is aware that registered practitioners are busy professionals and will only use email communication appropriately.

Dr Phillip Donato
Chiropractor
Chair, Chiropractic Board of Australia
29 September 2010

Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act

133 Advertising

- (1) A person must not advertise a regulated health service, or a business that provides a regulated health service, in a way that —
 - (a) is false, misleading or deceptive or is likely to be misleading or deceptive; or
 - (b) offers a gift, discount or other inducement to attract a person to use the service or the business, unless the advertising also states the terms and conditions of the offer; or
 - (c) uses testimonials or purported testimonials about the service or business; or
 - (d) creates an unreasonable expectation of beneficial treatment; or
 - (e) directly or indirectly encourages the indiscriminate or unnecessary use of regulated health services.Maximum penalty
 - (a) in the case of an individual — \$5,000; or
 - (b) in the case of a **body corporate** — \$10,000.
- (2) A person does not commit an offence against subsection (1) merely because the person, as part of the person's business, prints or publishes an advertisement for another person.
- (3) In proceedings for an offence against this section, a court may have regard to a guideline approved by a National Board about the advertising of regulated health services.
- (4) In this section — regulated health service means a service provided by, or usually provided by, a health practitioner.

5 Definitions

Health practitioner' means an individual who practises a health profession.

'Health profession' means the following professions, and includes a recognised specialty in any of the following professions —

- a. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practice;
- b. Chinese medicine;
- c. chiropractic;
- d. dental (including the profession of a dentist, dental therapist, dental hygienist, dental prosthetist and oral health therapist);
- e. medical;
- f. medical radiation practice;
- g. nursing and midwifery;
- h. occupational therapy;
- i. optometry;
- j. osteopathy;
- k. pharmacy;
- l. physiotherapy;
- m. podiatry;
- n. psychology.