



Communiqué

Nineteenth meeting of the Chiropractic Board of Australia 28 May 2011

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

This communiqué highlights key issues from the Board's last meeting. At each meeting, the Board considers a wide range of issues, many of which are routine and are not included in this communiqué.

Meeting Held in NSW

The Board held its May meeting in Sydney, in which the Board and AHPRA operate in a co-regulatory model with the Health Professional Council's Authority (HPCA) and the Health Care Complaints Commission (HCCC). This gave the Board the opportunity to meet with AHPRA NSW staff, NSW Chiropractic Council, representatives of the HPCA and the HCCC. These meetings were very productive and strong commitments were made by all parties to work towards effective communication and increased consistency in decision making and complaints handling under the National Law.

Notifications and Registration

The Board noted that many Chiropractors are now undertaking their first renewal under the National scheme. At this stage all renewals for registration as a chiropractor must be paper based, but the Board is working towards enabling online renewals.

The Board also noted that the first stage of the Student Registration Project is complete with all chiropractic students now being registered. The second stage of the project will be completed over the next few months and will result in AHPRA having a full set of required data about all students. The student register is not public, and students do not need to pay for registration.

Limited registration

The Board is now reviewing its proposed registration standard for Limited registration, based on feedback provided in consultation to date. The Board thanks everyone who made a submission. A revised standard will be published on the Board's website for further stakeholder feedback and consultation shortly. Practitioners are encouraged to refer to the website for updates on Policies and Guidelines.

Code of Conduct Review

The Board has begun to prepare the process to review the Code of Conduct for Chiropractors. It is anticipated that the review will begin in mid 2011 and that following full stakeholder and public consultation will be finalised around mid 2012.

Health Workforce Australia (HWA)

The Board noted the Health Workforce Australia Innovation and Reform Strategic Framework and the National Clinical Supervision Competency Framework, which is currently published for consultation. These reforms have the potential to impact substantially on the Chiropractic Profession and the work of the Board. The HWA documents are published at www.hwa.gov.au and the Board encourages chiropractors to engage with the process and have their say.

Practitioner Survey

As the Board approaches its first 12 months in the National Scheme, it will be undertaking a project to survey practitioners about issues relating to the registration and regulation of chiropractors. The Board will invite all chiropractors to have their say in the survey as it will help inform the Board's activities.

Website and receiving important information by email

Further information about the Board can be found on the Board's website at: www.chiropracticboard.gov.au and practitioners are encouraged to refer to the site for news and updates on Policy and Guidelines affecting practitioners.

The Board encourages all chiropractors to provide AHPRA with a current email contact address by updating their contact details through online services. This will enable AHPRA to contact practitioners about important registration information and the National Board to contact them with important updates for the profession.

Dr Phillip Donato
Chiropractor
Chair, Chiropractic Board of Australia
May 2011