



Communiqué

Meeting of the Chiropractic Board of Australia held on 21 October 2011

The Chiropractic Board of Australia (the Board) is established under the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009* (National Law). The October 2011 meeting of the Chiropractic Board of Australia (the Board) was held on 21 October 2011 at the AHPRA National Office in Melbourne.

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.

Newsletter

The Board will be publishing a newsletter in October and April each year. The first edition will soon be emailed to all registrants who have provided their email address to AHPRA. It will also be published on the Board's website. The newsletter aims to update registrants on current issues relating to the registration and regulation of the profession.

Renewal of registration

All registered chiropractors are required to renew their registration by 30 November 2011.

Registrants who have provided AHPRA with their email address will have received email renewal reminders. Hard copy renewal notices will be posted to registrants shortly. Practitioners can renew their registration online and are encouraged to renew early and to renew online.

Practitioners should ensure that they have provided AHPRA with their current contact details, including an email address to ensure that they receive important renewal information.

To renew registration online, update contact details or check registration status, go to www.ahpra.gov.au and follow the prompts. If you do not have a User ID, please refer to the information further below.

Under the National Law, chiropractors who do not renew registration within one month of their registration expiry date must be removed from the National Register of Chiropractors and they will not be able to practise as a Chiropractor in Australia until a new application is completed, submitted, and then approved by the Board.

Update your Details

To update your contact details held by AHPRA, go online at www.ahpra.gov.au, click online services, use your unique contact number (User ID) to log in and follow the prompts. Your User ID, included in AHPRA correspondence to practitioners, is not your registration number. If you do not have your User ID, complete an online enquiry form, selecting 'User ID' as the category of enquiry or by calling 1300 419 495.

CPD Reminder

Practitioners must ensure that they have met the Board's continuing professional development (CPD) requirements by the time they renew their registration, which is due by 30 November 2011.

The Board's requirements for CPD are set out in the *Continuing Professional Development Registration Standard*, which is available on the Board's website under the Registration Standards tab. The Board's *Guidelines for continuing professional development* and FAQs for CPD are also on the Board's website under the Policies, Codes and Guidelines tab.

Practitioners are required to make a declaration whether they have met the Board's CPD requirements when they renew their registration.

The National Law prescribes that non-compliance with a registration standard may result in further or disciplinary action. The Board will take all relevant factors into consideration in each case of non-compliance, including the fact that this CPD requirement is new to many practitioners.

Audit pilot

AHPRA and the ten National Boards regulating health professionals are developing a nationally-consistent approach to auditing health practitioners' compliance with mandatory registration standards (criminal history, professional indemnity insurance, recency of practice and continuing professional development). A pilot will be held to trial the auditing framework's ability to meet relevant legislative requirements, to set the scope and terms of reference for the audit and to determine frequency, size and type of audits. It will also establish a methodology and process for reporting on findings. AHPRA and the National Boards will be providing more detail to practitioners as the audit approach is further developed and details of the pilot are confirmed.

Advertising Notifications

The Board continues to receive a number of notifications that relate to advertising material not in accordance with the Chiropractic Guidelines for Advertising of Regulated Health Service or advertising material that contravenes s133 of the National Law.

To assist practitioners the Board will shortly publish two new FAQ's on Advertising and Testimonials Respectively. The Board encourages all practitioners to review these documents carefully and to ensure that any advertising material complies with both the National Law and the Guidelines.

Limited Registration

The Board has released for consultation draft registration standards for limited registration in the public interest and limited registration for teaching or research. The consultation documents are available on the Board's website and practitioners and members of the community are invited to provide comment. Consultation feedback should be emailed to chiroboardconsultations@ahpra.gov.au before 25 November 2011.

Consultation on definition of practice

The Board is currently undertaking public consultation in relation to the definition of 'practice' used by the 10 health professions regulated under the National Law. A consultation paper has been published on the Board's website at www.chiropracticboard.gov.au and the Board is seeking feedback on the consultation paper by 2 December 2011.

Seven of the 10 National Boards (Chiropractic, Dental, Medical, Optometry, Osteopathy, Podiatry and Physiotherapy) are currently undertaking this consultation.

Code of Conduct Review

The Board has commenced a review of the Code of Conduct for chiropractors. A first workshop has been held by the Working Party which includes nominees from a number of key stakeholders. The next steps of this process will entail wide and extensive consultation with all stakeholders. The Board hopes to provide draft documents for wide consultation to practitioners and the public early next year.

Further information

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 their profession. The Board reminds practitioners to make sure the contact details they have given to AHPRA are up to date and include a current email address so they can receive important updates, such as renewal reminders.

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