



Communiqué

Meeting of the Chiropractic Board of Australia held on 18 November 2011

The Chiropractic Board of Australia (the Board) is established under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009 (National Law). The November 2011 meeting of the Chiropractic Board of Australia (the Board) was held on 18 November 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.

Renewal of registration

All registered chiropractors are required to renew their registration by 30 November 2011. Chiropractors are urged to renew their registration before the expiry date.

As at 25 November 2011, 61% of chiropractors had lodged an application for renewal of registration with AHPRA either online or in hard copy.

To renew registration online, update contact details or check registration status, go to www.ahpra.gov.au; and log-in to Online Services by following the prompts. You will need to use your unique contact number (User ID). Your User ID 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.

An application for renewal of registration must be made not later than one month after a practitioner's period of registration ends (31 December). A late payment fee will apply to practitioners who apply to renew during the one month late period.

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. Their registration will lapse and they will not be able to practise in Australia until a new application is approved.

More information about what happens if a practitioner misses the 30 November renewal date is outlined in the current issue of the Board's [newsletter](#).

CPD Reminder

Practitioners must ensure that they have met the Board's CPD requirements by the time they renew their registration, which is due on 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 [FAQ's for CPD](#) are also on the Board's website under the Policies, Codes and Guidelines tab.

Practitioners are required to declare as part of their renewal of registration whether they have met the Board's CPD requirements in the preceding registration period. The Board may refuse to renew a practitioner's registration if the CPD requirements have not been met.

The National Law prescribes that non-compliance with a registration standard may result in 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.

The Board/AHPRA will conduct audits of practitioners to ensure they have complied with the Standard. Audits of compliance with CPD requirements will begin after November 2011.

Newsletter

The Board will be publishing a newsletter in October and April each year. The first edition was emailed to all registrants who have provided their email address to AHPRA, and a hardcopy was mailed to practitioners who have not supplied an email address. The [newsletter](#) is published on the Board's website. The newsletter aims to update registrants on current issues relating to the registration and regulation of the profession.

English Language Skills Registration Standard

The Board has received a number of enquiries about matters related to the [English Language Skills Registration Standard](#). In order to help practitioners and applicants, the Board will be releasing an FAQ document on the English Language Skills registration Standard. Once released this document will be published on the Boards website under the '[Codes and Guidelines](#)' tab.

Who needs Registration?

In order to assist practitioners, especially those coming to Australia from overseas to attend or present at seminars, the Board will shortly release an FAQ on *Who needs to be registered*. Once released this document will be published on the Boards website under the '[Codes and Guidelines](#)' tab.

Advertising Notifications

The Board continues to receive a number of notifications that relate to advertising material that may be in breach of the [Chiropractic Guidelines for Advertising of Regulated Health Service](#) or s133 of the National Law.

To assist practitioners the Board have published 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. The Board encourages chiropractors and members of the community to provide feedback. All consultation feedback must be emailed to chiroboardconsultations@ahpra.gov.au before 25 November 2011, and will be published on the Board's website unless a request is made.

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 workshop was held on 22 October and involved a full days of discussion with a number of key stakeholders. The next steps of this process will entail wide and extensive consultation with stakeholders. The Board hopes to provide draft documents for wide consultation early next year.

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) 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.

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
November 2011