

# Communiqué

The October meeting of the Chiropractic Board of Australia (the Board) was held on 18 October 2013 at the AHPRA Office in Sydney. This communiqué highlights the important issues from this meeting.

The National Board publishes this communiqué on its website and emails it to a broad range of stakeholders. Please forward it on to colleagues and employees who may be interested in the work of the National Board.

#### Media

The board is aware of recent media interest in a notification matter that has attracted lots of public comment. A statement is published on the website.

## Raising concerns about the health, conduct or performance of a registered health practitioners

The provisions of the National Law provide for concerns about the health conduct and performance of individual practitioners to be raised primarily by making a notifications. The National Board encourages people to use this pathway to notify the National Board if they have any concerns about the conduct or performance of a registered chiropractor. For more information about this pathway and how to make a notification about an individual practitioner see the *Notifications* tab on the AHPRA website (www.ahpra.gov.au/Notifications.aspx).

## **NSW Chiropractic Council**

The NSW Chiropractic Council is the co-regulatory body that manages notifications relating to NSW practitioners under the National law. After this month's Board meeting, the National Board met with the NSW Chiropractic Council to discuss matters relating to advertising, notifications, and the regulatory activities of both bodies as well as ways of improving information sharing between the two bodies.

Both the National Board and the NSW Chiropractic Council are committed to holding practitioners to account against the professional and ethical standards set by the National Board.

## Standards, guidelines and codes

The National Board continues its work on the routine, three-year review of its registration standards and supporting codes and guidelines in conjunction with other National Boards. Work is well underway on reviewing registration standards for criminal history, English language skills, continuing professional development, professional indemnity insurance and recency of practice. The National Board will be consulting on these progressively over the coming months.

The National Board has agreed to start consulting on Guidelines for the further education and training of chiropractors when required by the National Law. This guideline will advise about the responsibilities, processes and reporting requirements for such activities. This document is available on the National Board's website (<a href="www.chiropracticboard.gov.au">www.chiropracticboard.gov.au</a>). All feedback is welcome, submissions close 29 November 2013.

## **Current consultations**

Consultation is an important part of the National Board's engagement with chiropractors and members of the public. The feedback provided is greatly valued, and informs the Board's development of registration standards, codes and guidelines. Consultations are published on the National Board's website at <a href="https://www.chiropracticboard.gov.au/News/Current-consultations.aspx">www.chiropracticboard.gov.au/News/Current-consultations.aspx</a>.

#### International criminal history checks - further public consultation

This consultation paper seeks feedback on options for refining international criminal history checks used by AHPRA in assessing applications for registration for the 14 health professions regulated under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory (National Law). This consultation closes on 31 October 2013.

## Guidelines for the further education and training of chiropractors when required by the National Law

The National Board has developed the draft *Guideline for the further education and training of chiropractors* when required under the National Law. Its aim is to standardise the National Board's approach and provide guidance on how further education requirements can be undertaken in an appropriate, consistent and professional manner. **This consultation closes on 29 November 2013.** 

## English language skills registration standard and Criminal history check registration standard

All National Boards, except the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Board of Australia, are participating in this review. The participating National Boards commissioned research on English language skills. This research has helped inform the development of a revised English language skills registration standard. This consultation closes on 23 December 2013

### **Registration renewal**

Chiropractors are due to renew their registration by 30 November each year. AHPRA will forward registration renewal information to chiropractors before this date. The first notices will go out by email in coming weeks.

In preparation for this, please check your contact details lodged with AHPRA through the Your Account tab on the top right of the AHPRA website. Email accounts should be set to receive communications from AHPRA and the Board to avoid misdirection to an account junk box.

To check your contact details, go to the Your Account tab as directed above, use your unique contact number (User ID) and follow the prompts. 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

#### Conclusion

The National Board publishes a range of information about registration and the National Board's expectations of practitioners on its website at <a href="https://www.chiropracticboard.gov.au">www.chiropracticboard.gov.au</a> or <a href="https://www.ahpra.gov.au">www.ahpra.gov.au</a>.

For more detail or with questions about your registration please send an <u>online enquiry form</u> or contact AHPRA on 1300 419 495.

#### **Dr Phillip Donato**

Chiropractor Chair, Chiropractic Board of Australia 22 October 2013