



## Communiqué

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The July 2015 meeting of the Chiropractic Board of Australia (the Board) was held on 24 July 2015 at the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency's (AHPRA) National Office in Melbourne. This communiqué highlights the important issues from this meeting.

At each meeting, the Board considers a wide range of issues, many of which are routine and are not included in this communiqué.

The 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.

### Advertising and promotional material

The National Law<sup>1</sup> requires the Board to set ethical and professional standards for the chiropractic profession and gives the Board the power to hold practitioners to account against those standards. In addition, section 133(1)(a) states that a person must not advertise a regulated health service in a way that is false, misleading or deceptive or is likely to be misleading or deceptive.

The Board holds ongoing concerns about advertising by the profession that may be seen as misleading and deceptive. In particular, there have been a number of concerns raised about chiropractors' advertising that indicates that there may be a lack of understanding of evidence and evidence-based practice. The Board has proposed to address this issue and some other issues around advertising in its next newsletter.

### Audit of registration standards

The Board's audit into compliance with the following mandatory registration standards:

- continuing professional development
- recency of practice
- professional indemnity insurance arrangements, and
- criminal history

has commenced and is progressing well. Overall compliance has been good to date and the Board will report on any significant issues that arise as part of the audit.

### Compliance with registration standards on renewal of registration

The Board noted that registration renewal for chiropractors is due by 30 November 2015. At every renewal the National Law requires practitioners to declare whether they have complied with the mandatory registration standards. The Board reminds practitioners of their requirement to undertake 25 hours of continuing professional development (CPD), at least 50 per cent of which must be 'formal' learning activities. The Board also reminds practitioners that in addition to the CPD requirement practitioners must hold a current first aid certificate at the minimum standard of a Senior First Aid (Level 2) certificate or equivalent.

### Report from the Chair

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<sup>1</sup> The Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory (the National Law)

Dr Wayne Minter AM provided a report to the Board regarding his attendance at a recent interprofessional education workshop held by the Australian Medical Council in collaboration with the Australian Pharmacy Council, the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council and the Council on Chiropractic Education Australasia.

The workshop brought together representatives from a number of organisations involved in the regulation, accreditation and education of health professions in Australia. Its aim was to improve delivery of coordinated interprofessional education between health professions in Australia. The Board is fully supportive of cross professional educational initiatives.

### **Appointment of new members**

The Board expressed its gratitude for all the effort and work that the outgoing members, Dr Amanda Kimpton, Dr Mark McEwan and Ms Margaret Wolf, have contributed towards the Board's work throughout their terms of appointment. As inaugural members of the National Board their contribution has been critical in all of the Board's achievements since it started. Their contribution will be missed.

The Board noted the ministerial appointment of two new practitioner members from September this year, Dr Ailsa Wood and Dr Anna Ryan, and one new community member, Mr Frank Ederle. It looks forward to working with these members and building on the foundations laid by the current Board.

### **Conclusion**

The National Board publishes a range of information about registration and the National Board's expectations of practitioners on its website at [www.chiropracticboard.gov.au](http://www.chiropracticboard.gov.au) or [www.ahpra.gov.au](http://www.ahpra.gov.au).

For more information or help with questions about your registration please send an [online enquiry form](#) or contact AHPRA on 1300 419 495.

### **Dr Wayne Minter AM**

Chiropractor

Chair

Chiropractic Board of Australia

*24 July 2015*