



Communiqué

The August 2015 meeting of the Chiropractic Board of Australia (the Board) was held on 21 August 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.

Farewell to outgoing Board 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 its inception. 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 new community member, Mr Frank Ederle. It looks forward to working with these members and building on the foundations laid by the current Board.

Review of the National Scheme

The Board reviewed the [report of the independent review](#) of the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for health professions (the Review) and the accompanying [communiqué](#) that were released by the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council on 7 August 2015.

The Review was conducted by Mr Kim Snowball, a former senior public servant and the former Director General of WA Health. The Review comprised an extensive consultation process which included more than 230 written submissions and the involvement of more than 1,000 individuals from across the country. There was also input from key stakeholders, including practitioners and professional associations.

The Board noted that Health Ministers agreed to implement a number of key recommendations to improve complaints and notifications systems and strengthen community participation in National Board governance to ensure the National Scheme is responsive to consumers. They also accepted the recommendation to allow either a practitioner member or a community member to be appointed as Chairperson of a National Board.

Health Ministers deferred all decisions relating to the consolidation of the nine low volume regulatory National Boards and have sought further advice on this option for their December meeting. They have asked AHPRA to work with National Boards to simplify and reduce the number of committees in the National Scheme to streamline governance.

Health Ministers asked for further work to be done on the current model for accreditation functions to identify changes to reduce duplication to improve efficiency, effectiveness and administrative arrangements.

The Review identified a lack of clarity regarding the purpose and scope of the National Scheme and agreed to issue a communiqué to clarify the basis for any new professions entering the scheme and to propose a process for unregistered professions to raise concerns about government policy, funding and programs.

Board presentation to Murdoch University students

The Board had been invited to give a presentation to final-year chiropractic students at Murdoch University. Board member Dr Graham Goodreid gave a report to the Board about the presentation. It was noted that the presentation included an overview of the National Scheme, the Board's role and responsibilities, student and practitioner registration and a practitioner's professional obligations.

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 or 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.

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Chiropractor

Chair

Chiropractic Board of Australia

21 August 2015