



## Communiqué

---

### December 2015 meeting of the Chiropractic Board of Australia

The Chiropractic Board of Australia (the Board) is established under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory (the National Law).

The Board meets each month to consider and decide on any matters related to its regulatory function within the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme).

This communiqué aims to inform stakeholders of the work of the Board. Please forward it on to colleagues and employees who may be interested in its content.

#### Registration renewal

Chiropractors were due to renew their registration by 30 November. AHPRA forwarded registration renewal information to all registered chiropractors.

If you didn't renew your registration on time, you can still renew until **31 December 2015**, but a late fee will apply. The quickest and easiest way to do this is [online](#).

Practitioners, who haven't renewed by 31 December 2015, will have their registration lapse. Their name will be removed from the public register. This means they must make a new application for registration and will **not be able to practise** until their application has been finalised and their registration details are updated on the national register.

Fast track application forms will be available on the Board's website under *Forms* or by phoning the AHPRA Customer Service Team on 1300 419 495 during January only.

Chiropractors who do not want to renew their registration to keep practising can simply ignore the reminders from AHPRA or go online to 'opt out' of renewing. Using the 'opt out' service puts a stop to renewal reminders.

An FAQ about renewal is available on the [National Board's website](#)

#### CPD log book

The Board's revised registration standards for [continuing professional development](#) (CPD) were published and became effective on 1 December 2015. The revised standards will apply to most applicants for initial registration, and applicants for renewal of registration from 1 October 2016. They do not apply to the current cycle of renewals.

Some of the requirements for CPD have changed in the new registration standard. Changes have been made as to what type of learning activities are considered to be Formal learning activities and how these activities should be assessed and recorded. In order to assist practitioners to meet the CPD requirements the Board has published a [CPD FAQ and a revised CPD log book](#).

#### Evidence-based practice

The Board's *Code of conduct* states that practitioners must practice in an evidence-based and patient-centred manner so that they provide the best possible healthcare for their patients. The Board has published

a [fact sheet](#) that seeks to answer common questions raised by practitioners about evidence-based practice in the context of chiropractic care.

### Paediatric care

The Board has released a statement regarding its expectations of chiropractors who provide care to [infants and children](#). The Board notes that best practice approaches to providing chiropractic care to children are published in peer reviewed literature<sup>1</sup> and this evidence should be used to guide clinical practice.

At all times, the Board requires practitioners to:

- consider the balance of benefit and harm in all clinical decisions
- obtain their patients' informed consent (See also section 3.5 of the *Code of conduct*) and
- practise in an evidence-based and patient centred manner.

### Advertising

AHPRA continues to receive complaints about chiropractors' advertising. The Board reminds practitioners that it is an offence under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (National Law) to advertise a regulated health service in a way that is:

- a. false, misleading or deceptive
- b. offers a gift, discount or other inducement unless the terms and conditions of the offer are also stated
- c. uses testimonials or purported testimonials
- d. creates an unreasonable expectation of beneficial treatment; or
- e. directly or indirectly encourages the indiscriminate or unnecessary use of a regulated health service

The Board's [Code of conduct for chiropractors](#), Guidelines for advertising regulated health services ([Advertising Guidelines](#)) and the [Social media policy](#) provide more information about advertising. The Board has also produced a newsletter dedicated to this issue and an FAQ that gives more information to assist practitioners to understand their obligations under the National Law.

### Season's greetings

The Board would like to wish all practitioners, stakeholders and their families and loved ones a safe and happy holiday season and looks forward to working together in 2016.

### Dr Wayne Minter AM

Chiropractor  
Chair  
Chiropractic Board of Australia  
11 December 2015

---

<sup>1</sup>Hawke et al, *Best practice recommendations for chiropractic care for infants, children, and adolescents: results of a consensus process* J Manipulative Physiol Ther. 2009 Oct;32(8):639-4