

## Communiqué

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### March 2016 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.

#### Advertising issues

The Board received and noted feedback and correspondence related to its statement on advertising matters. The Board reiterated its purpose in issuing this statement was to provide further clarity and understanding of the requirements of the National Law and existing guidelines. The Board also affirmed that its intention in issuing this statement was to support patients being adequately informed when making healthcare choices and to ensure that any statements and claims made in relation to chiropractic care are not false, misleading or deceptive; or create an unreasonable expectation of beneficial treatment. The Board intends to continue working with the profession to ensure there is better understanding and compliance on this matter.

#### National awareness campaign

You may have seen the beginning of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) national awareness campaign. **Know your obligations**, the first of three phases, is directed at employers of health practitioners and was launched at the close of last year. The message has been shared over social media through targeted ads resulting in a doubling of our online community.

The next phase of the campaign is targeted at practitioners. Under the headline of **The not-so-small print**, practitioners are encouraged to stay up to date with regulation changes as they occur, and to be aware of their obligations as registered health practitioners. Advertisements were recently published across a mix of social media, industry publications and newsletters.

The final phase will be directed at the public to increase awareness of the [national register of practitioners](#).

#### Health practitioner regulation: Learn how you're protected

A new video and an accompanying infographic explaining the Australia-wide scheme that is in place to protect members of the public was released by AHPRA in December.

Both resources are available on the [What we do](#) page of the AHPRA website or read the [news item](#) on the Board website for more information. The video can also be watched on AHPRA's [YouTube channel](#).

#### Local data summaries published

The National Boards and AHPRA have published [reports for each state and territory](#) on the National Scheme. The reports provide a unique insight on local outcomes within a scheme for which the core focus is protection of the public. They are for the 2014/15 year of the scheme.

The summaries provide local data on registration types, notifications (complaints) and mandatory notifications for the regulated health professions, for each state and territory.

### **Top tips for using the register**

The [register of practitioners](#) is core to all of our work because it provides up-to-date information about every registered health practitioner. To help the public and employers get the most out of the register, we have developed [these tips](#). In particular, the tips remind anyone responsible for recruiting health practitioners how to use the register to verify a practitioner's registration status.

### **Are your contact details up to date?**

It is important that your contact details are up to date to receive renewal reminders from AHPRA and information from the Board. You can check your details via the [Login icon](#) at the top right of the AHPRA website.

Email accounts need to be set to receive communications from AHPRA and the Board to avoid misdirection to an account junk box.

### **Follow @AHPRA on Twitter**

AHPRA uses [Twitter](#) to encourage greater discussion about National Board consultations and to host regular Twitter chats on important topics.

### **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  
*18 March 2016*