



## Communiqué

### August 2017 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 in 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.

The August 2017 meeting was held face to face in the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) National Office, Melbourne.

The Board noted, with regret, the resignation of Ms Barbara Kent from the Board. The Board wishes Barbara all the best in her future endeavours and thanked her for the huge amount of input and steadfast commitment to the Board's work over the past five and a half years.

#### **Predatory chiropractor will never practise again**

The Board and AHPRA have succeeded in permanently cancelling a chiropractor's registration after they brought disciplinary proceedings against the individual to the South Australian Health Practitioners Tribunal (the tribunal).

Individuals who demonstrate disregard for the National Law and potentially place patients in harms' way or, as in this case, are exploitative of their patients are committing the most serious kind of professional misconduct. It is the role of the Board and AHPRA to protect the public from such practitioners and hold them to account.

The tribunal made its initial findings in June 2017, when it found that Mr Robert Marin's conduct was substantially below the standard expected of a registered chiropractor. The tribunal has now made a decision on its sanctions for Mr Marin.

Read the Board's media release regarding the case on its [website](#).

#### **Quarterly registration data released**

The Board publishes quarterly data profiling Australia's chiropractic workforce, including a number of statistical breakdowns about registrants. The Board's June 2017 registration data is now published on the Board's [Statistics page](#).

#### **National Boards approve policy for removing reprimands from the national register**

A policy to ensure consistent removal of reprimands from the national register of practitioners has been approved by all National Boards.

Reprimands on a practitioner's registration can be imposed under the National Law by a performance or professional standards panel, professional standards committee (in the case of New South Wales), and a relevant tribunal or court.

The policy will ensure that reprimands are removed from the [national register](#) in a consistent and effective way. It also allows for the removal of reprimands imposed under previous legislation to be considered on an individual basis, consistent with removal powers under that legislation.

A reprimand imposed under the National Law will be removed from the national register on the publication end date set by the relevant panel, committee, court or tribunal. Where a panel or tribunal has not set a publication end date, or where the reprimand was imposed under previous legislation, the reprimand will be removed no earlier than five years from the date of initial publication.

This is subject to:

- the practitioner making an application for removal of the reprimand
- no relevant event having occurred in the five-year period of publication of the reprimand,
- and legal advice confirming the power to remove a reprimand imposed under previous legislation.

A relevant event is any health, performance or conduct notification, action taken against the practitioner in relation to an adverse disclosure on renewal of registration, new information returned on a criminal history check or a confirmed breach of restrictions. It also includes when action has been taken against a practitioner regarding their conduct, health or performance.

New notifications, irrespective of whether action was taken, will also be taken into account if an application for removal of a reprimand is received after the five-year period of publication.

The policy will take effect from 2 October 2017 and will be reviewed annually. An application form for removal of a reprimand from the national register will be published under [Common forms](#) on the AHPRA website.

### 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 social media

Connect with AHPRA on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [LinkedIn](#) to receive information about important topics for your profession and participate in the discussion.



### 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

**August 2017**