



## Communiqué

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### July 2018 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.

The July 2018 meeting was held at the ParkRoyal, Melbourne Airport.

#### **Revised registration standard and guideline for continuing professional development**

In May 2018, the Board released a public consultation paper seeking feedback on the revised draft continuing professional development (CPD) registration standard and guidelines. Response to the public consultation from stakeholders and the broader chiropractic community was outstanding, with a wide range of perspectives and insights being offered by the professional associations, accreditation bodies, CPD providers, government and individual practitioners. All responses received were reviewed and considered by the Board at its July meeting. They provided an important input to the Board's decision to endorse the revised standard and guideline which will now progress to the Ministerial Council for consideration.

A common theme that emerged from the consultation submissions was that chiropractors will need to be provided with clear information and guidelines to help them understand their obligations under the revised standard. This feedback has been welcomed by the Board and will be used to inform planning for implementation in due course.

#### **Chiropractic Board of Australia Forum in Melbourne**

The Board finalised arrangements for the education forum it hosted in Melbourne on 28-29 July 2018, noting that 70 delegates had registered to attend the event. The forum explored existing research on workplace-based learning and related concepts with a focus on application of this work in the context of solo and small health-professional practice.

Video recordings were made of the presentations across the two-day forum, and these will be edited and published on the Board's website in due course. The Board will also publish a special edition newsletter in September to highlight some of the content and outcomes of the forum.

## Advertising update – selectively editing reviews or testimonials may break the law

AHPRA has issued more guidance for advertisers to make it clearer that selectively editing reviews is not acceptable.

Under the National Law<sup>1</sup>, testimonials about clinical care are not permitted, but reviews about non-clinical aspects of care are allowed.

In a recent case, an advertiser removed all negative comments from patients' reviews. This selective editing changed the meaning of the reviews and had the potential to mislead the public. AHPRA's new guidance makes it clear this is not acceptable and outlines the rules about editing or moderating reviews. It is misleading to:

- edit a review that is negative to make it positive, as this falsely presents the feedback
- edit a review that has a mix of negative and positive comments so that the published review only has positive comments, as this falsely implies that the reviewer only had positive feedback, or
- edit a review so that it no longer accurately reflects all the reviewer's feedback and presents an inaccurate or false impression of the reviewer's views.

Reviews influence consumers healthcare choices so advertisers must make sure reviews are genuine and not misleading.

The way advertisers moderate and publish reviews must comply with the National Law and the [Australian Consumer Law](#).

The updated [testimonial tool](#) is available in the *Advertising resources* section on the AHPRA website.

For more information, access the [Advertising resources](#) on the AHPRA website.

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

It is important that your contact details are up-to-date to receive information from the Board. You can check your details via the [Login icon](#) at the top right of the AHPRA website. Your email account needs to be set to receive communications from AHPRA and the Board to avoid misdirection to your account junk box.

## 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**

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