



## Communiqué

The August meeting of the Chiropractic Board of Australia (the National Board) was held on 14 September 2012 at the Melbourne Conference & Exhibition Centre. This meeting occurred in conjunction with the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (National Scheme) annual conference. This communiqué highlights key issues from this meeting.

At each meeting, the National Board considers a wide range of issues, many of which are routine and are not included in this communiqué.

The National 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 in the work of the National Board.

### National Registration and Accreditation Scheme combined meeting

All 14 National Boards in the National Scheme held their meetings on 14 September to coincide with the National Scheme combined meeting. The AHPRA Agency Management Committee, AHPRA leadership teams, representatives of NSW Councils, accreditation authorities, Health Workforce Australia and regulatory colleagues from New Zealand joined Board members for a series of presentations and workshops. The purpose of this annual meeting was to take stock, share ideas and innovations, identify future challenges and identify actions to make continue improving the implementation of the national scheme.

### Consultations

Public consultation has now been commenced on the revised *Code of Conduct for Chiropractors and Guidelines on Clinical Record Keeping*. These documents are available on the National Board's website under the *News* tab.

Consultation feedback closes on 26 October for both of these documents.

Public Consultation has also commenced on the accreditation arrangements for the National Board. This too is now available for comment on the National Board's website under the *News* tab.

### Registration renewals

Chiropractors across Australia are reminded that their registration is due for renewal on 30 November.

The quickest and easiest way to renew registration is online. More than 75% of chiropractors renewed using this secure service last year and it is hoped that this could increase to a much higher number this year to be in line with the other professions.

AHPRA is sending a series of emails to chiropractors, for whom an email address is known, reminding them to renew their registration. Practitioners should check that their contact email details are up to date so they receive renewal reminders from AHPRA. These reminders are confirmation that online renewal is open.

Contact details can be updated by going online at [www.ahpra.gov.au](http://www.ahpra.gov.au), following the 'online services' link and using your unique contact number (User ID). If you do not have your User ID, complete an online enquiry form or call 1300 419 495.

Practitioners who do not intend to renew their registration (for reasons such as family leave or moving overseas) can use a new online facility that allows them to 'opt out' of renewing. This service stops renewal reminder being sent to practitioners who don't intend to renew and provides the Board and AHPRA with

better data on the number of chiropractors who actively opt out of renewing their registration compared to those who intend to renew but do not do so on time.

Under the National Law, practitioners who do not renew registration within one month of their registration expiry date must be removed from the National Register of Practitioners. Their registration will lapse and they will not be able to practise in Australia until a new application for registration is approved. There is no discretion for either the Board or AHPRA in this, so practitioners must renew on time.

### **Standards compliance audit**

All health practitioners registered under the National Law are required to comply with a range of registration standards (that are developed after wide-ranging consultation and approved by the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council).

AHPRA is currently developing an auditing framework to test compliance with standards through a practitioner audit project. A second phase of the audit pilot is being run at registration renewal this year with the chiropractic, optometry, and pharmacy professions.

This second phase will begin in October 2012 and run for approximately three months. Chiropractors will be randomly selected when they apply to renew their registration for the 2012-13 period. This will apply to both paper and online renewal applications.

There will be an information pack sent to those selected for the audit with additional information available on the AHPRA website [www.ahpra.gov.au](http://www.ahpra.gov.au) under *Registration*.

### **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 detail or with questions about your registration please send an [online enquiry form](#) or contact AHPRA on 1300 419 495.

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