



Communiqué

26 September 2013 meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia

The 49th meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia (the Board) was held on 26 September 2013 in Melbourne. This communiqué outlines the issues discussed and decisions made by the Board at its meeting and other points of interest. The Board publishes this communiqué on its website and emails it to a broad range of stakeholders.

Graduates

Osteopathy Board Chair visited each university that offers osteopathy programs during the past month and presented registration and regulation information to final year students. Students of an approved program leading to registration as an osteopath will be able to go online in October to apply for registration before they graduate. The online graduate registration service at the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) website enables final year students to apply for registration four to six weeks before completing their course at <http://www.ahpra.gov.au/Registration/Graduate-Applications.aspx> for FAQ and links to more information.

Registration Renewal

Over 1,700 osteopaths with general or non-practising registration are due to renew their registration with the Board by **30 November 2013**. Registrants will have received information from AHPRA regarding renewal of registration.

The Board encourages osteopaths to renew their registration early and to renew online. Online renewal is quick and easy. There is a late fee for renewal applications received during December.

Under the National Law, if you do not apply to renew your registration within one month of your registration expiry date your registration will lapse and you will not be able to practise in Australia until a new application for registration is approved. Your name must be removed from the Register of Osteopaths.

If you experience difficulties using the online renewal service you can phone the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) Customer Service Team on 1300 419 495 and a team member will talk you through the process.

It is important that you make sure AHPRA has your current contact information so that you don't miss email and hard copy reminders to renew.

To update your contact details using AHPRA's secure online services, you can go to the AHPRA website at <http://www.ahpra.gov.au/> then:

- go to the bottom of the home page
- click on *Update Contact Details* under Services for Practitioners
- use your user ID and secure password, and
- follow the prompts.

International Osteopathic Alliance – partner member

The Board has been accepted as a Partner member to the International Osteopathic Alliance (OIA).

Quarterly data

One of the benefits of the national registration and accreditation scheme is that there are now national registers where information is published about every registered health practitioner in Australia. It is now possible to produce accurate reports on the number of practitioners registered in each profession in Australia. The latest quarterly report is now available on the Board's website under 'news' and [statistics](#). All the Boards publish similar information about their health profession which is available on each Board's website.

Keeping in touch with the Board

The Board publishes a range of information about registration and the Board's expectations of practitioners on its website at [Osteopathy Board of Australia](#). Osteopaths are encouraged to refer to the site for news, registration data, newsletters, and updates on policy and guidelines affecting their profession.

Dr Robert Fendall (Osteopath)

Chair

30 September 2013