



Communiqué

Seventh meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia 29 April 2010

The Osteopathy Board of Australia (Board) is established under the *Health Practitioner Regulation (Administrative Arrangements) National Law Act 2008*.

At its seventh meeting on 29 April 2010, the Board made decisions about a range of matters that will impact on the transition to the national registration and accreditation scheme. This Communiqué aims to inform stakeholders of the decisions of the Board.

Registration standards approved by Ministerial Council

Since the Board's last meeting, Ministerial Council approved the Board's proposed registration standards. The approved registration standards come into force from 1 July 2010 and are available on the Board's website at www.osteopathyboard.gov.au.

Transition arrangements – letter to registrants

By now, registered osteopaths should have received a letter from the Board which explains each osteopath's registration category from 1 July 2010. The letter details the information that will appear on the online national Register of Osteopaths. The Board is urging all osteopaths to make sure the contact details held by their current state or territory board are accurate and up to date before 30 June 2010.

Currency of registration

The Board encourages osteopaths to ensure they hold current registration on 30 June 2010 so that they will transition safely to the national Register of Osteopaths. Please register early if renewal is due near mid year to ensure safe transition to the national scheme.

An osteopath who does not hold current registration on 30 June 2010 will not transition and will be required to re-apply for registration and meet the requirements of the National Law and approved registration standards.

Renewal arrangements

The Board recognises that there is an increasing number of decisions that the Board needs to make as 1 July 2010 approaches and continues to work to support the introduction of the scheme.

A list of renewal arrangements that will apply from 1 July 2010 for every State and Territory has been published on its website. This advises the first renewal dates for osteopaths across Australia to align future renewals with the national annual renewal date of 30 November.

Registration Fees

The Board has set provisional national registration fees for 2010-2011. The final fees will be announced in June, when the Board has received details of the assets and liabilities of existing State and Territory Boards.

Consultation on codes and guidelines closed on 14 April 2010

The Board welcomed the feedback it has received to its public consultation on:

- Guidelines on advertising
- Guidelines on mandatory notifications
- Code of practice
- Guidelines on continuing professional development

Eight submissions were received. All submissions for which consent to publication was provided will be uploaded to the Board's website shortly.

The Board will consider the feedback on its codes and guidelines further at its next meeting and will publish the final guidelines on its website. They will be effective from 1 July 2010.

Conclusion

The Board continues to work collaboratively with stakeholders including the State and Territory Boards and the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA). It is grateful for the assistance that is being provided to support the safe transition of osteopaths to the National Scheme.

Robert Fendall
Chair, Osteopathy Board of Australia
5 May 2010