



Communiqué

Tenth Meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia 29 July 2010

The tenth meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia was held on 29 July 2010 in Melbourne. At this meeting, the Board made its first decisions under the national registration and accreditation scheme.

First aid

The Board reminds practicing osteopaths that its continuing professional development requirements are being phased in because the Board recognises that mandatory CPD requirements introduced with the national scheme are new for many practitioners. Accordingly, applicants who apply for registration or renewal of registration between 1 July 2010 and 30 June 2011 will have until 30 June 2012 to comply with the Board's CPD Registration Standard, including the first aid requirements. Any applicants for renewal of registration received after 1 July 2012 will need to sign a declaration that the applicant has complied with the CPD requirements in the 12 months preceding the renewal application. From 2012, the Board will audit a proportion of the total number of registered osteopaths each year for compliance with the CPD registration standard.

The Board considers that CPD is a fundamental component of good practice and expects all osteopaths to prepare for the introduction of mandatory requirements by participating in CPD from 1 July 2010. Ideally this would involve undertaking CPD that complies with the requirements set out in the Board's CPD Registration Standard and Guidelines, which are published on the website.

Capabilities for osteopathic practice

The Board formally considered the project report and statement of capabilities for osteopathic practice developed by the University of Technology Sydney. The Board noted that the Australian and New Zealand Osteopathic Council (ANZOC) is drawing on this work in its development of an assessment process for overseas qualified osteopaths, and will write to ANZOC identifying areas which would benefit from consideration in the capabilities.

Memorandum of Understanding with New Zealand and the United Kingdom

The Board reviewed the action and timeframes for further work to progress the memorandum of understanding, including a public consultation process later in 2010.

Panel members

The Board reviewed its list of approved persons to be appointed to panels. The Board will be seeking to recruit additional osteopaths for the list of approved persons in coming months. The Board will publish information on its website when the recruitment process begins.

Accreditation

The Board discussed accreditation matters, and was briefed by Mr Stiofan Mac Siobhne, Chair of the ANZOC Overseas Qualifications Assessment Committee. The Board agreed to seek an update from ANZOC about progress with its assessment process for overseas qualified osteopaths.

Information for osteopaths

Further information for osteopaths is being progressively added to the Board's website. There is a range of important documents, guidelines and policies published on this site and the Board encourages practitioners to make themselves familiar with the information published at www.osteopathyboard.gov.au.

Robert Fendall
Chair
Osteopathy Board of Australia
11 August 2010