



Communiqué

Twenty sixth Meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia 24 November 2011

The twenty sixth meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia was held on 24 November 2011 in Melbourne. The Board is established under the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act* (National Law) as in force in each state and territory.

This communiqué highlights key issues from the Board's last meeting. At each meeting, the Board considers a wide range of issues, many of which are routine and are not included in this communiqué.

Infection Control Guidelines

The Board will publish *Guidelines on Infection Control* on its website in the near future.

Clinical Records Guidelines

The draft [Guidelines on Clinical Records](#) for osteopaths is now open to the public consultation. The Board encourages anyone interested in this issue to check the website at www.osteopathyboard.gov.au in coming weeks for details about how to provide feedback. If you wish to provide comment please email osteoboardconsultation@ahpra.gov.au or post them to Chair, Osteopathy Board of Australia, GPO Box 9958, Melbourne, Vic 3001 by close of business 3 February 2012.

Feedback on the consultation will be published on the website, unless requested otherwise.

The Board will keep the profession informed about progress of the consultation through communiqués.

Expressions of interest: panel members

The Board is responsible for the registration of osteopaths, setting professional standards and managing notifications (complaints) against osteopaths. Through the notifications process the Board may form Health Panels and Performance & Professional Standards Panels, using the approved persons list. The Board is about to commence inviting expressions of interest for its panel member list.

The Board will be publishing information about the expression of interest process on its website very shortly, including when the recruitment process opens. Applications will be assessed by a selection committee and forwarded for a decision by the Board about appointments to the panel member list.

Newsletter to registered osteopaths from the Board

The Board has sent the first edition of the Board's newsletter to all registered osteopaths during November. This was sent in both hard copy and by email. In future the Board will send newsletters electronically and it is important to ensure that AHPRA has an updated email address. The newsletter can be viewed at: www.osteopathyboard.gov.au/News/Newsletters.aspx

Registration and registrant contact details

Osteopaths were required to renew their registration by 30 November 2011. Those osteopaths who have not done so are still able to renew their registration online but will be subject to a late fee on top of the registration fee. Osteopaths have until 31 December 2011 to complete this renewal.

Osteopaths who have completed their renewal application can check that it has been received via the Board's website at www.osteopathyboard.gov.au. Practitioners whose application to renew has been

received are able to practise while their application is processed – **as long as the application has been received by AHPRA by 31 December.**

Under the National Law, osteopaths who do not renew registration by this date must be removed from the National Register of Osteopaths. Their registration will lapse and they will not be able to practise osteopathy in Australia until a new application is approved.

Neither the Board nor AHPRA have any discretion about this. If you have any questions about completing the application for registration renewal, please contact AHPRA immediately on 1300 419 495.

If a practitioner's name is listed on the National Register of Osteopaths this is evidence for employers that a practitioner is registered, even if their registration expiry date had passed but their application for renewal is being processed.

Osteopaths should check their contact details and update them if necessary to receive regular reminders from the Board and AHPRA. Email accounts should be set to receive communications from AHPRA and the Board to avoid misdirection to an account junk box.

To update your contact details, go to www.ahpra.gov.au, click online services, use your unique contact number (User ID) and follow the prompts. Your User ID is not your registration number. If you do not have your User ID, complete an online enquiry form, selecting 'User ID' as the category of enquiry or by calling 1300 419 495.

Dr Robert Fendall
Chair
Osteopathy Board of Australia
1 December 2011