



## Communiqué

### 28 June 2012 Meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia

The 34<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia was held in Sydney on 28 June 2012. The Board is established under the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act* (National Law) as in force in each state and territory.

The 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 Board.

#### Endorsement for acupuncture for registered osteopaths

A *Fact Sheet* to explain endorsement for acupuncture requirements is available at the Osteopathy Board's website at [www.osteopathyboard.gov.au/Registration-Standards/FAQ.aspx](http://www.osteopathyboard.gov.au/Registration-Standards/FAQ.aspx)

#### Meeting with the Australian and New Zealand Osteopathic Council (ANZOC)

Under the National Law, the Australian and New Zealand Osteopathic Council (ANZOC) is responsible for accreditation functions. The Chairs and Executive Officers of the both the Board and ANZOC participated in the Joint Meeting of representatives of National Boards, Accreditation Authorities and Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) in Melbourne on 6 June 2012.

The Board and ANZOC also took the opportunity for the Chairs and Executive Officers to have a face to face meeting on 6 June 2012 to discuss issues of mutual interest.

The Chair of ANZOC and the CEO of AHPRA both signed the Agreement for the Accreditation Function, which has effect until 30 June 2013.

#### The Health Professions Agreement

The Board approved the Health Professions Agreement (HPA) with AHPRA at the meeting in June 2012. The HPA sets out the services that AHPRA will provide in supporting the Board to regulate the osteopathy profession. The Board intends to publish the HPA in August.

#### 2012 Professions

The Board noted that from 1 July 2012, practitioners in the following health professions will join the national registration and accreditation scheme:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practice, regulated by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Health Practice Board of Australia
- Chinese medicine , regulated by the Chinese Medicine Board of Australia
- Medical radiation practice, regulated by the Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia and

- Occupational therapy, regulated by the Occupational Therapy Board of Australia.

More than 16,000 practitioners are expected to transition into the National Scheme from local state or territory boards, while nearly 14,000 additional practitioners have applied to be registered for the first time. Registered health practitioners will be required to comply with the relevant registration standards and will be regulated by their respective Boards according to the provisions of the National Law.

### **All Boards consultation paper on international criminal history checks**

This consultation paper seeks feedback on options for refining international criminal history checks used by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) in assessing applications for registration for the 14 health professions regulated under the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act* (National Law) as in force in each state and territory.

Feedback by email is welcomed from stakeholders, practitioners and interested members of the public to [criminalhistoryconsult@ahpra.gov.au](mailto:criminalhistoryconsult@ahpra.gov.au) by close of business on 17 August 2012.

### **Website and receiving important information by email**

Further information about the National Board can be found at: [www.osteopathyboard.gov.au](http://www.osteopathyboard.gov.au). Osteopaths are encouraged to refer to the site for news and updates on Standards, Codes and Guidelines relating to their profession.

Osteopaths are also encouraged to provide their email address to AHPRA (by updating their contact details online). This will enable the National Board to send e-newsletters and other important information about the profession, and AHPRA to contact osteopaths about important registration or renewal information.

Dr Robert Fendall  
Chair  
Osteopathy Board of Australia  
5 July 2012