



## Communiqué

### 14 September 2012 Meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia

The 37<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia was held on 14 September 2012 at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre as part of the annual National Registration and Accreditation Scheme combined meeting. The meeting was the first with the changed Board membership structure outlined in the July communiqué.

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. Please forward it on to colleagues and employees who may be interested in the work of the Board.

#### National registration and accreditation scheme combined meeting

The purpose of this annual meeting is brings together members of all fourteen National Boards, representatives of NSW councils, members of the Agency Management Committee, AHPRA staff, and representatives of the different professions' accreditation authorities. It is an opportunity each year to share ideas and innovations, and identify future challenges and the actions needed for change under the national scheme.

This year's speakers from overseas and within the national scheme addressed regulatory issues such as practitioner performance and competence, engaging with health consumers, and identifying the opportunities for future work with key external stakeholders including Health Workforce Australia and government.

#### Review of accreditation authority arrangements

The Osteopathy Board has completed preliminary consultation on the review of accreditation arrangements of its accreditation authority, the Australian and New Zealand Osteopathic Council (ANZOC). A six week public consultation process in which all stakeholders and interested practitioners can participate commenced on 20 September 2012 with a closing date of 2 November 2012.

#### Stakeholder meetings

The Osteopathy Board held a meeting with the Chair and Executive Officer of the Australian and New Zealand Osteopathic Council (ANZOC) on 14 September 2012. This enabled discussion of the current review of accreditation arrangements, and other issues of mutual interest such as ANZOC's recent public consultation on its '*Policy for assessment and recognition of overseas assessment and regulatory authorities*' and the Board's intention to consult on additional pathways to registration for overseas trained osteopaths.

#### Osteopathic International Alliance (OIA) and international regulators' forum

The Osteopathic International Alliance (OIA) will hold its annual meeting and conference in Paris from 22 to 23 September 2012. The Chair of the Osteopathy Board will attend the forum for international osteopathy regulatory authorities which will be held as a parallel forum to the OIA AGM and conference. The Chair will give a presentation on regulation of osteopathy in Australia and the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme, titled: *Australian health (practitioner) regulation just got bigger and better – implications and lessons for osteopathy.*

### **Community engagement forums to be held soon**

As part of the community engagement strategy for all National Boards, a partnership has been established with the Consumer Health Forum of Australia (CHF) to engage with health consumers and the broader community. CHF is the national peak body representing the interests of Australian healthcare consumers.

A series of state-level community forums have been scheduled between October and December, providing an opportunity to brief members from the community (non practitioners) on how health practitioner regulation works and what it offers the community. More information about the forums will be published on the AHPRA website shortly.

### **Keeping in touch with the Board**

To ensure that future editions of the e-newsletter and important renewal of registration information are sent to you, please check your contact details and update them if necessary. To update your contact details, go to [www.ahpra.gov.au](http://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 (Osteopath)  
Chair  
Osteopathy Board of Australia  
20 September 2012