



## Communiqué

### 18 October 2012 Meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia

The 38<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia was held on 18 October 2012 at the national office of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) in Melbourne.

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.

#### Newsletter

The Board has published its fourth newsletter. A copy has been emailed to all osteopaths who have provided AHPRA with an email address and posted to the remainder. The newsletter contains important information about the upcoming renewal of registration, at which time osteopaths will have to declare for the first time their compliance with both the recency of practice and the continuing professional development registration standards. A copy of the newsletter is on the Board's website under the News tab.

#### Satisfying recency of practice or returning to practice after an absence

When returning to practice after an absence, an osteopath is required to comply with the requirements of the Board's *Recency of practice registration standard*. The Board has recently published an information sheet to provide information to practitioners returning to practice after an absence. This information sheet also applies to an osteopath who has been undertaking some practice, but who has not undertaken enough hours in their main domain of practice in the required period, and may therefore not satisfy recency of practice requirements. It can also be used by an osteopath wishing to change domains, from where they have sufficient hours to satisfy the registration standard, to another domain where they have not undertaken 400 hours of practice in the past three years.

The Board has also published a template plan for professional development and re-entry to practice which makes provision for the elements that should be included in a plan for professional development and re-entry to practice. These documents can be found on the Board's website under the Policies, Codes and Guidelines tab in the FAQ's and fact sheets section.

#### CPD Reminder

Practitioners are required to regularly participate in continuing professional development (CPD) that is relevant to their domain of practice. Osteopaths with general registration are required to complete a minimum of 25 hours of CPD per year, as well as hold a current senior first aid certificate.

The Board's CPD requirements must be met by the time practitioners renew their registration. When osteopaths renew their registration, they are required to declare on the renewal of registration form whether during the preceding registration period they have met the Board's CPD requirements. The Board may refuse to renew a practitioner's registration if the CPD requirements have not been met.

The Board's requirements for CPD are set out in the *Continuing professional development registration standard*, which is available on the Board's website under the Registration Standards tab. The Board's

*Guidelines for continuing professional development* and FAQ for CPD are also on the Board's website under the Policies, Codes and Guidelines tab.

Practitioners should familiarise themselves with these documents which clearly explain the Board's CPD requirements and ensure that if they have not already met the requirements, that they are progressing towards meeting them by the time they renew their registration.

### Renewal of registration

Osteopaths will have received information from AHPRA regarding renewal of registration, which is due by **30 November 2012**. The Board encourages practitioners to renew their registration early and to renew online. If a practitioner has not applied to renew their registration within one month after their registration expiry date, their registration will lapse and they will not be able to practise osteopathy in Australia until a new application for registration is approved. Under the National Law, they must be removed from the Register of Osteopaths.

### Panel Member List

The Board has finalised the appointments to the Approved Persons List for panels. The Board wishes to thank the osteopaths and members of the community who has shown an interest in this important work of the Board.

### Board consultation

The draft *Guidelines on informed consent* for osteopath practitioners has been sent to targeted stakeholders for preliminary consultation in October/November 2012. The Board will keep the profession informed about progress of the consultation through communiqués.

### Stakeholder engagement

The Board has continued regular teleconference meetings with the Executives of the Australian Osteopathic Association, the Chiropractic and Osteopathic College of Australasia and the Australian and New Zealand Osteopathic Council. The meetings have proved beneficial as forums for consultation and discussing the work of the Board, and for the Board to be updated on issues from the profession.

### Annual report

AHPRA and the National Boards submitted the 2012 Annual Report to Ministers by 30 September as required by the National Law. The report, expected to be publicly released on 1 November, details the work of the National Boards and AHPRA in implementing the second year of the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme. The release will be supported by the publication of a special edition of AHPRA Report. The 2012 Annual Report and AHPRA Report will both be published online.

### 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  
29 October 2012