



## Communiqué

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### 25 June 2015 meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia

The 69<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia (the Board) was held on 25 June 2015 in Sydney. The Board also met with key stakeholders Osteopathy Australia and the Osteopathic Council of NSW. This communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations from the Board's meeting. The Board publishes this communiqué on our website and emails it to a broad range of stakeholders. At each meeting, the Board considers a wide range of issues, many of which are routine and are not included in this communiqué.

#### Meeting with Osteopathy Australia and the Osteopathic Council of NSW

The Board met with Osteopathy Australia on 25 June 2015 and discussed a range of issues of mutual interest and future engagement.

The Board met with the Osteopathic Council of New South Wales on 26 June 2015 and discussed co-regulation issues.

#### Budget and health profession agreement

Under the National Law, the National Boards and AHPRA work in partnership to implement the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme), each with specific roles and responsibilities. The guiding principles of the National Law require the National Scheme to operate in a 'transparent, accountable, efficient, effective and fair way'.

Every year each of the National Boards and AHPRA publish a health profession agreement that details the fees payable by health practitioners, the annual budget of the National Board and the services provided by AHPRA that enable the National Boards to carry out their functions under the National Law.

In order to inform its review of the health profession agreement the Board reviewed and signed off on its 2015/16 budget and work plan. These documents will be published on the Board's website soon. The Board was then able to review and agree to the health profession agreement for the 2015/16 financial year. The 2015/16 health profession agreement will be published on the [AHPRA website](#) under *Publications* in the near future.

#### Health Ministers announce Board appointments

On 6 July 2015, the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council (the Ministerial Council) announced the re-appointment of three practitioner and three community members of the Osteopathy Board: Dr Nikole Grbin, Dr Natalie Rutsche, Adjunct Assoc Prof Philip Tehan, Ms Liza Newby, Mr Robert McGregor AM and Ms Judith Dikstein.

Read the [AHPRA media release](#) welcoming the Ministers' announcement of these appointments.

#### National Scheme News

##### Health ministers to consider National Scheme review report in August

Federal and state and territory health ministers will respond to the report of the review of the National Scheme in August this year.

Ministers met in mid-April at the COAG Health Council to discuss a range of national health issues, including the final report of the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme Review. The independent review was conducted by Kim Snowball, the former Director General of Health in Western Australia. It involved an extensive consultation process that included more than 230 written submissions and more than 1,000 individuals participating in consultation forums in each capital city.

The review aimed to identify what was working well in the National Scheme and opportunities to improve and strengthen the work of AHPRA and the National Boards to protect the public and facilitate access to health services. According to the report of the meeting, health ministers will consider the recommendations from the review and discuss them further at their meeting in August 2015.

The *COAG Health Council communiqué* is available on the [COAG Health Council website](#).

#### **Follow @AHPRA on Twitter**

AHPRA uses [Twitter](#) to encourage greater discussion about National Board consultations and to host regular Twitter chats on important topics.

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

The Board publishes a range of information about registration and the Board's expectations of practitioners on its website at [www.osteopathyboard.gov.au](http://www.osteopathyboard.gov.au). Osteopaths are encouraged to refer to the site for news and updates on policy and guidelines affecting their profession.

Dr Nikole Grbin (Osteopath)

Chair

Osteopathy Board of Australia

9 July 2015