



Communiqué

27 August 2015 meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia

The 71st meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia (the Board) was held on 27 August 2015 in Melbourne. 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.

Australasian Osteopathic Accreditation Council (AOAC)

The AOAC joined the meeting briefly for preliminary discussions on the draft revised *Capabilities for Osteopathic Practice* and the *Accreditation Standards for Osteopathic programs of study*, the draft report on the Evaluation of the Competent Authority Pathway and the six-monthly report on the Quality Framework for the Accreditation Function. The documents will be further discussed at the Board's September meeting.

Panels – recruitment to list of panel members

The Board invites osteopaths to express interest in being added to a list of panel members to be called on when a performance and professional standards panel or a health panel hearing is required.

These panels may be infrequent, but being involved is an opportunity to become familiar with the types of notifications that the Board receives and the legislation that governs osteopathy practice, decision-making and administration under the National Law. It is also a good way to be introduced to the work of regulators.

There is training available for panel members once appointed. Appointments to the list of approved persons are currently advertised by the Board. For more information, visit the [Panel member recruitment](#) page on the AHPRA website. **The closing date has been extended to 14 September 2015.**

Student engagement

The Board is developing a number of ways to engage with final year students prior to graduation to outline applying for registration, the responsibilities of registered practitioners and the role of the Board and AHPRA. As Chair of the Board, I presented on these topics to final-year students in Melbourne recently, and will present to final-year students in Lismore on 10 September 2015. During these sessions, I am collecting attendee feedback on how the Board should conduct student engagement in future.

National Registration and Accreditation Scheme review report released

The Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council met on 7 August 2015 at the COAG Health Council meeting to consider the final report of the independent review of the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme.

The purpose of the independent review was to identify what is working well in the National Scheme and the opportunities to improve and strengthen the operation of the scheme in regulating health professions to protect the public.

Ministers expressed strong support for the work of the National Scheme, noted that it was now embedded in the health system and was among the most significant and effective reforms of health profession regulation in Australia and internationally.

For more information read the COAG Health Council media release [here](#).

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. 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

2 September 2015