



Communiqué

August 2016 meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia

The 82nd meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia (the Board) was held on 26 August 2016 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.

The whole Board meets as the Registration and Notification Committee (RNC) on the same day as the Board meetings to consider registration and complaint (notification matters).

National Registration and Accreditation Scheme 2016 combined meeting

The National Board meeting was held to coincide with the annual National Registration and Accreditation Scheme combined meeting where entities within the scheme got together to discuss the focus for the next 12 months.

During the meeting, the Board took the opportunity to meet with the Chair of the Australasian Osteopathic Accreditation Council (AOAC) to discuss accreditation matters. The Board also met with the Chair and Registrar of the Osteopathic Council of New Zealand to discuss issues of mutual interest, including common regulatory functions, outcomes and pathways for overseas-trained osteopaths.

Health profession agreement and registration fees

The Board approved the Health Profession Agreement (HPA) 2016-2020 and will shortly publish it. Under the National Law, the National Boards and Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) work in partnership to implement the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme), each with specific roles and responsibilities. The HPA provides information about the Board's financial operations, outlines the partnership between the Board and AHPRA, the services AHPRA will provide to the Board to regulate the profession, and the fees payable by health practitioners.

The Board has approved the registration fees for osteopaths for 2016/17. The Board is pleased to reduce the registration fees by \$10 to \$376. The fee for practitioners whose principal place of practice is NSW is \$525.¹ The annual renewal fee will apply from 1 September 2016 and cover the registration period for most practitioners of 1 December 2016 to 30 November 2017. A full fee schedule, including the fee arrangements for practitioners whose principal place of practice is NSW, is published on the Board's [website](#).

Capabilities for osteopathic practice – period of consultation by Board

The AOAC has completed a project to conduct a review of the Board's current [Capabilities for Osteopathic Practice](#) (2009). The AOAC considered the feedback received from stakeholders during their periods of consultation and provided a draft proposed *Capabilities for Osteopathic Practice* document to the Board.

In the coming months the Board will conduct preliminary consultations with key stakeholders. Following the preliminary consultations the draft proposed *Capabilities for Osteopathic Practice* document will be released on the Board's website for public consultations.

¹ NSW is a [co-regulatory jurisdiction](#).

National Boards and AHPRA host research summit

The 2016 Research Summit hosted by the 14 National Boards and AHPRA was attended by more than 220 delegates who gathered together to talk about the next frontier for developing our partnership's evidence-base to improve the way we regulate.

The theme of the summit was *'patient safety through risk-based regulation'*, and presenters discussed a range of topics. At the heart of the discussion was how to contribute to safer care for patients and health consumers. Also discussed was how data collection and evaluation can help find new and innovative ways to improve regulatory processes for health practitioners and the public.

The inaugural summit provided an opportunity for the exchange of expertise and ideas between regulatory staff, experts in safety and quality in healthcare, health practitioners and leading health and medical researchers.

Read more in the [media release](#) about the summit which was held on 25 August.

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 2016