



Communiqué

February 2017 meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia

The 87th meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia (the Board) was held on 23 February 2017 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 notification (complaint) matters.

Regulatory planning for 2017/18

The Board spent time in January planning for 2017/18, including focusing on the Board's regulatory plan, current initiatives and new initiatives. The Board approved the planning documents at its February meeting and these will form part of the Health Profession Agreement (HPA) document to be published in 2017/18.

Call for applications to the Board: WA and NSW

There are multiple practitioner vacancies opening on the Board in New South Wales and Western Australia.

All appointments are made by the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory. Appointments are for up to three years as decided by the Ministerial Council.

More information about the roles, eligibility requirements and the application process can be found on each of the Boards' [website](#).

Applications close on **Monday 20 March 2017**.

Health workforce dataset released

AHPRA in conjunction with the National Boards is responsible for the national registration process for 14 health professions. A subset of data from this annual registration process, together with data from a workforce survey that is voluntarily completed at the time of registration, forms the National Health Workforce Dataset (NHWDS).

The NHWDS includes demographic and professional practice information for registered health professionals and is de-identified before it can be made publicly available.

The NHWDS Allied Health 2015 data has recently been released as a series of fact sheets on each allied health profession, and on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander practitioners across all allied health professions - the *NHWDS Allied Health Fact Sheets 2015*. They were published on a new look website – the [Health Workforce Data website](#) – by the Commonwealth Department of Health.

The fact sheets present information specific to each profession, such as information relating to scope of practice, specialties and endorsements where applicable.

Aggregate data is also accessible via the [Health Workforce Data Online Data Tool \(ODT\)](#).

The data include is generated through Workforce Surveys, which are provided by AHPRA on behalf of the Department of Health to all health professionals as part of their yearly re-registration. Each survey is slightly different and is tailored to obtain data specific to that profession.

You can find the fact sheet on the osteopathy profession [here](#).

Local insights, National Scheme: State and territory summaries published

Individual annual report summaries for each state and territory, offering insights into how the National Scheme is operating in each jurisdiction, have now been published.

The summaries provide local data on registration types, notifications (complaints) and mandatory notifications for the regulated health professions, in each state and territory.

To download any or all of the state and territory reports, or to view the main 2015/16 annual report, [visit our microsite](#).

Osteopathy Board of Australia profession profile

The Board has published a report of its work in the regulation of the osteopathy profession under the National Scheme during 2015/16.

The report provides a profession-specific view of the Board's work to manage risk to the public. It is a profile of regulation at work for the osteopathy profession in Australia for the 12 months ending 30 June 2016.

The data in this report is drawn from the [2015/16 annual report](#) published by AHPRA and the National Boards, reporting on the National Scheme.

AHPRA Performance Report July-September 2016

The July to September 2016 quarterly performance reports for AHPRA and the National Boards are now available.

The reports, which are part of an ongoing drive by AHPRA and the National Boards to increase their accountability and transparency, include data specific to each state and territory.

Each report covers AHPRA and the National Boards' main areas of activity:

- managing applications for registration as a health practitioner
- managing notifications about the health, performance and conduct of registered health practitioners and offences against the National Law, and
- monitoring health practitioners and students with restrictions on their registration.

The reports are available on the [Statistics page](#) of AHPRA's website. To provide feedback on the reports please email: reportingfeedback@ahpra.gov.au.

Follow AHPRA on social media

Connect with AHPRA on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [LinkedIn](#) to receive information about important topics for your profession and participate in the discussion.



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

6 March 2017