



Communiqué

April 2017 meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia

The 89th meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia (the Board) was held on 27 April 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.

Request for quote: Revised *Capabilities for osteopathic practice*

We are continuing our revision of the *Capabilities for osteopathic practice* document, following a recent preliminary consultation with targeted stakeholders.

We have published a procurement document seeking interested bidders to amend the draft revised *Capabilities for osteopathic practice* document, to address the feedback received in preliminary consultation prior to public consultation and to finalise the document after public consultation.

We are interested in hearing from individuals or a team of interested bidders. The closing date is **26 May 2017**.

Further information on the scope of the work required, including deliverables and timelines, is available on our [website](#).

Update on the review of the code of conduct

The *Code of conduct for osteopathy* is also used by ten other National Boards (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice, Chinese Medicine, Chiropractic, Dental, Medical Radiation Practice, Occupational Therapy, Optometry, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy and Podiatry) with some minor profession-specific changes for some Boards.

The code is a regulatory document that provides an overarching guide to support and inform good practice and to assist practitioners, Boards, employers, health care users and other stakeholders to understand what good practice involves. It seeks to assist and support practitioners to deliver safe and effective health services within an ethical framework.

As the code was last published in March 2014 the Board has started a scheduled review that will draw on best available research and data and involve additional stakeholder consultation and engagement. The Board is working with other National Boards which use the code on the review.

The review is still at an early research phase. However, the Board is already considering how it can maximise opportunities for input when the consultation stage of the review starts. In addition to public consultation the Board intends to use its website and social media to inform the profession of how it can contribute to the review. The Board will highlight opportunities to be involved in the review in its communiqué and newsletters.

Meeting your legal and professional advertising obligations

Osteopaths who advertise health services need to **check, correct** and **comply** with their professional and legal advertising obligations.

The National Boards and the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) have published a strategy for the National Scheme aimed at keeping health service consumers safe from misleading advertising.

The [Advertising compliance and enforcement strategy](#) explains how National Boards and AHPRA will manage advertising complaints and compliance, including the regulatory powers available to deal with breaches of the National Law.

The strategy is designed to keep improving how regulated health services are advertised so healthcare consumers can be better informed.

When preparing advertising, registered health practitioners should always put the consumer first and ensure that their advertising is not [false, misleading or deceptive](#) in any way.

This strategy builds on the previous education and enforcement work from National Boards and AHPRA.

More information is available on the [Advertising resources](#) section of the AHPRA website and more information will be published in coming months.

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

2 May 2017