

19 June 2014

Jill Humphreys
Physiotherapy Board of Australia

By Email:

Dear Jill

Our ref: PBNZ014

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission to your consultation document on Registration standards and guidelines:

1. Professional indemnity insurance
2. Continuing CPD
3. Recency of practice

Of interest to the Physiotherapy Board of NZ is:

1. Professional indemnity insurance: In Australia there is a regulatory requirement for physiotherapists to have professional indemnity insurance. This not relevant in NZ because of ACC. The changes proposed are around wording to make the standards *“easier to read and more’ user-friendly’*. This is positive to assist practitioners and the public;
2. Continuing CPD: We note the Board are not proposing any substantial changes to their standards but the revised standard and guideline would have *“clearer wording and structure to make it easier to understand”*. Again providing clarity has a positive outcome;
3. Recency of practice: The Board are proposing a revised standard and guideline on recency of practice which would have *‘clearer wording and structure to make it easier to understand’*.

Of interest to the Physiotherapy Board of New Zealand is a proposed change to recency of practice being 5 years, without any specified hours, to a specific number of hours (these being 150 hours per year or 450 hours over 3 years). In New Zealand the HPCA Act specifies 3 years.

The Australian Board have also raised a question about the definition of ‘recent graduate’ and the need for a period (one or 2 years) of oversight or internship.

The New Zealand Board would welcome being notified of the final outcomes and decisions of your consultation.

Yours sincerely

Jeanette Woltman-Black
Chief Executive