19 June 2014

Jill Humphreys
Physiotherapy Board of Australia

By Email:

Dear Jill

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