

### Authority

This standard has been approved by the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council on 31 March 2010 pursuant to the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (2009)* (the National Law) with approval taking effect from 1 July 2010.

### Summary

All registered physiotherapists practising in Australia must maintain a portfolio documenting participation in continuing professional development (CPD) that contributes to maintaining and improving their competence to practise in their chosen scope of practice. The Board will accept as evidence a declaration by an individual of CPD activity sufficient to maintain competence throughout the period of registration.

### Scope of application

This standard applies to all registered practitioners. It does not apply to students or practitioners who have nonpractising registration.

### Requirements

1. All practising physiotherapists must maintain a portfolio that documents all CPD undertaken and a record of reflection of the impact of learning on practice.
2. The Board will accept as evidence a declaration by an individual that they will commit to undertake sufficient CPD to maintain competence throughout the period of registration.
3. All practising physiotherapists are required to participate in CPD activities that contribute directly to maintaining and improving their competence in their chosen scope of practice. Practising physiotherapists must complete at least 20 hours of CPD per year.
4. Applicants who are registered part-way through a registration period must complete five hours of CPD for every three months of registration remaining in the registration period.
5. Applicants for renewal of registration will be required to complete a declaration of compliance with this standard.

In line with its function to monitor the competence of physiotherapists, the Board will conduct an annual audit of physiotherapists registered in Australia. The audit process will be published in the Board's guidelines and may be reviewed from time to time.

### Definitions

**Continuing professional development** is the means by which members of the profession maintain, improve and broaden their knowledge, expertise and competence, and develop the personal and professional qualities required throughout their professional lives.

**Professional development activities** means participation in formal learning activities, such as attendance at courses or conferences, as well as non-formal learning gained through experience and interaction with colleagues.

**Practice** means any role, whether remunerated or not, in which the individual uses their skills and knowledge as a health practitioner in their profession. For the purposes of this registration standard, practice is not restricted to the provision of direct clinical care. It also includes working in a direct nonclinical relationship with clients; working in management, administration, education, research, advisory, regulatory or policy development roles; and any other roles that impact on safe, effective delivery of services in the profession and/or use their professional skills.

### References

Australian Capital Territory Health (2005). *Continuing Professional Development for Allied Health Professionals*, ACT Health, Canberra.

### Review

This standard will commence on 1 July 2010. The Board will review this standard at least every three years.