

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 are required to maintain their competence to practise. The Board requires that physiotherapy practice has been undertaken during the five-year period immediately prior to the commencement of the registration period.

New applicants are required to provide documented evidence of practice if their qualification was obtained more than five years before the date of application.

All registered physiotherapists are required to declare their practising status at renewal.

Scope of application

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

Requirements

1. If an applicant's qualifications were obtained more than five years before the day the application for registration is made, the applicant is required to provide documented evidence that they have practised physiotherapy within the five years before the day the application is made.
2. Upon renewal of registration, all physiotherapists must confirm that they have practised physiotherapy within the five years before the first day of the renewal period.
3. The Board will accept as evidence at renewal a declaration by an individual that they have practised physiotherapy.
4. If an applicant has not practised for more than five years, they will be required to demonstrate competence to practise and registration will be at the Board's discretion.

Definitions

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.

Recency of practice means that a practitioner has maintained contemporary practice in the profession since qualifying or obtaining registration.

Review

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