

Communiqué

The 42nd meeting of the Physiotherapy Board of Australia (the National Board) was held on 26 July 2013 at the Australian Health Practitioner Regulatory Agency (AHPRA) National Office in Melbourne.

This communiqué outlines the issues and decisions from this meeting as well as other points of interest.

We publish this communiqué on our website and email it to a broad range of stakeholders. Please forward it on to your colleagues and employees who may be interested.

Board reviewing feedback from consultation

The Board is now reviewing feedback from its recent consultation on the following codes and guidelines, which has now closed:

- *Code of conduct for physiotherapists*
- *Guidelines for mandatory notification*
- *Guidelines for the advertising of regulated health services, and*
- *Social media policy.*

These are critical documents that apply to physiotherapists, as employees or employers.

The Board has received useful feedback from a broad range of stakeholders. This is currently being analysed and considered for inclusion into the final documents.

Other important documents – the *continuing professional development registration standard* and guideline, and the *recency of practice registration standard* and guideline – are undergoing a routine three-year review and will be published for consultation in the months ahead. We will notify you when they are released.

Continuing professional development registration standard and guidelines

The [Registration standard for continuing professional development](#) (CPD) is published on the board's website (www.physiotherapyboard.gov.au).

Recent trends in registration renewals indicate that some registrants are not aware of the scope of activities that can be counted towards the required 20 hours of continuing professional development for registered physiotherapists. The [guideline](#) clarifies and provides examples of what can be counted towards continuing professional development. A template for recording CPD activities and reflections is also published. The Board draws these to the attention of practitioners.

Practitioner audit

The National Law requires practitioners to meet registration standards set by the Board, and to declare their compliance with these standards when they renew their registration each year.

The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) has been working with some National Boards to develop a process to audit practitioner compliance with the registration standards for CPD, recency of practice, professional indemnity insurance and criminal history.

The Physiotherapy Board of Australia has now approved a process to support the random audit of a sample of physiotherapists each year, as part of the Board's on-going responsibility to check that physiotherapists are conforming with the registration standards (published on the Board's website).

All practitioners selected for audit will be contacted by AHPRA in plenty of time and provided with information to assist and guide them in completing the audit.

Conclusion

We publish a range of information about registration and our expectations of you as a physiotherapist on our website at www.physiotherapyboard.gov.au or www.ahpra.gov.au.

For more detail or with questions about your registration please send an [online enquiry form](#) or contact AHPRA on 1300 419 495.

Paul Shinkfield

Chair

1 August 2013