

Communiqué

The 46th meeting of the Physiotherapy Board of Australia (the National Board) was held on 29 November 2013 in Adelaide.

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 to your colleagues and employees who may be interested.

Newsletter

The Board has recently published its quarterly registrant newsletter. A copy was emailed to all physiotherapists who have provided AHPRA with an email address. It is also published on the Board's website under the *News* tab. The newsletter contains important information about being a registered physiotherapist and the National Board recommends that all practitioners make sure to read it.

Review of standards, guidelines and codes

As the National Board for the physiotherapy profession we continue to review the registration standards, guidelines and codes developed before the National Scheme began. An important part of this process is consultation.

We undertake two phases of consultation - preliminary and public.

During preliminary consultation we release the paper to a small group of stakeholders, which allows us to 'road test' the feasibility of proposed changes as well as consider feedback that may be incorporated into the next phase.

Public consultations are widely communicated in communiqués and published on our website. This stage is open to everyone.

We have released the following board specific registration standards for preliminary consultation:

- *Continuing professional development registration standard*
- *Continuing professional development guideline*
- *Professional indemnity insurance registration standard*
- *Recency of practice registration standard*
- *Recency of practice guideline, and*
- *Professional indemnity insurance registration standard.*

A public consultation phase on these six standards and guidelines will follow.

Consultation on English language skills and Criminal history registration standards

The 14 National Boards in the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme) have released a consultation paper on the review of the criminal history and English language registration standards.

You are invited to provide your comments on the consultation paper, including the questions in the paper, by 23 December 2013.

This stage of consultation is open to everyone. We encourage all interested practitioners, members of the community and other stakeholders to have input.

The consultation paper can be found on the Physiotherapy Board's website under the [Current consultations](#) tab.

Audit

AHPRA and the Board are developing a nationally consistent approach to auditing health practitioners' compliance with the mandatory registration standards.

Each time a practitioner applies to renew their registration; they must make a declaration that they have met the registration standards for their profession. Practitioner audits are an important part of the way that the Board and AHPRA can better protect the public by regularly checking these declarations made by a random sample of practitioners. The audit help to make sure that practitioners are meeting the required standards of practice and provide important assurance to the community and the Boards.

Auditing of all professions has commenced. If you are selected for audit you will be notified in writing and requested to provide evidence that you meet the requirements of the standard.

Further information will be available soon on the Board's website – www.physiotherapyboard.gov.au.

Registration renewal for physiotherapists

Physiotherapists are due to renew their registration by 30 November each year. A high percentage of physiotherapists have already renewed their registration and the majority have done so online. AHPRA will email reminders to those registrants (for which they hold a current email address) who have yet to renew.

Under the National Law, all registered physiotherapists are responsible for renewing their registration on time each year and there is no option for AHPRA or the Physiotherapy Board to renew your registration after it has lapsed without a new application.

If you haven't renewed already, please check your contact details lodged with AHPRA through the *Your Account* tab on the top right of the AHPRA website.

Updating contact details

To check your contact details, go to the Your Account link, use your unique contact number (user ID) and follow the prompts. Your user ID is not your registration number. If you do not have your user ID, complete an online enquiry form, selecting 'user ID' as the category of enquiry or by calling 1300 419 495.

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

3 December 2013