

## Physiotherapy Board survey answers

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7 July 2015

### Correct answers as at July 2015

Thank you to all registrants who participated in the survey. The results have been useful in informing the Board with regard to communication with registrants.

Please find below the correct answers according to the requirements of registrants under the National Law as at July 2015. Requirements for physiotherapists may change over time so it is important to keep checking the website for news and updates, remembering that it is your responsibility to keep abreast of any changes.

Correct answers are indicated by a tick '✓', and incorrect answers by a cross 'X'.

Further information is available through links to the standards, codes and guidelines provided at the end of each question set and at any time on the Board's website.

### Continuing Professional Development - CPD

1. How many hours per year of Continuing Professional Development are Registered Physiotherapists required to take part in and retain evidence of?

- None
- At least 10 hours
- ✓ At least 20 hours
- At least 40 hours
- At least 80 hours
- Other (please specify)

2. Which of the following activities are considered acceptable as Professional Development? (Please check all activities that you believe are acceptable as PD.)

- Courses leading to degree, higher degree and research degree
- Quality assurance activities, such as accreditation
- Internet research
- Reading books, journals or other relevant publications
- Accredited courses
- Conferences, forums and seminars
- Tertiary courses
- Online learning (interactive discussion and chat rooms)
- Making presentations
- Participation in committees
- Reflecting on experience in day to day activities
- Undertaking research and presentation of work
- Discussion with colleagues
- Secondment and/or contact with other professionals
- In-service education programs
- Information sharing at meetings
- Videoconferencing

- ✓ All of the above

3. Which of the following are Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements?

- ✓ Physiotherapists are required to keep evidence of their completing CPD requirements each year.
- X Evidence of CPD only has to cover records of attendance at formal learning activities.
- ✓ The Physiotherapy Board of Australia may audit any registered physiotherapist's CPD records.
- ✓ Records of CPD have to be kept for at least five years.

4. The Physiotherapy Board of Australia Guidelines for CPD recommend that registered physiotherapists reflect on all their formal and informal CPD activities. Which of the following do you think are suitable and sufficient forms of reflection?

- ✓ Writing a report on the learning activity that assesses its usefulness.
- ✓ Setting professional development goals.
- ✓ Talking to a colleague about the learning activity.
- ✓ Thinking about the learning activity.
- ✓ Writing notes on possible changes to practice arising from the learning.
- ✓ Keeping a reflective journal.
- ✓ Planning professional development.

Further information on CPD is available [here](#).

### Recency of Practice

All registered physiotherapists are required to declare their practicing status at the renewal of their registration.

5. Which of the following statements about recency of practice requirements do you think are correct?

- ✓ 'Practice' is not restricted to the provision of direct clinical care.
- ✓ Individual cases where a physiotherapist's recency of practice is not demonstrated over the previous five years are at the Board's discretion to resolve.
- ✓ Registered physiotherapists must have undertaken practice within the past five years.
- X The recency of practice standard applies to students.
- ✓ 'Practice' includes working in management or other roles that impact on safe, effective delivery of services in the profession.

Further information on Recency of Practice is available [here](#).

### Professional Indemnity Insurance - PII

6. Professional Indemnity Insurance (PII) requirements include:

- ✓ PII arrangements must include run-off cover for when the physiotherapist ceases to practise.
- ✓ Physiotherapists must complete an annual declaration of compliance with the PII standard.
- ✓ If required by the Board, a physiotherapist must provide documentary evidence of their PII.
- X PII is not needed when undertaking practical components of professional development.
- X Registered physiotherapists whose PII arrangements are provided by their employer do not need other PII coverage when practising physiotherapy outside their stated employment.
- X PII cover is only required for physiotherapists in private practice.

Further information on PII is available [here](#).

### Mandatory Notifications

Registered health practitioners, employers of practitioners and education providers are required to make mandatory notifications under the National Law to prevent the public being placed at risk of harm.

'Notifiable conduct' is defined in the National Law. Practitioners are to notify the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) if they believe another practitioner has behaved in a way that presents a serious risk to the public.

7. Please indicate whether the following are circumstances that warrant making a notification under the Mandatory Notifications Guidelines.

- X The practitioner has made poor clinical judgements.
- ✓ The practitioner has engaged in sexual misconduct in connection with the practice of their profession.
- ✓ The person reporting the practitioner suspects that the practitioner might cause the public harm.
- ✓ The practitioner has an impairment that places the public at risk of substantial harm.
- ✓ The practitioner has practised while intoxicated by alcohol or drugs.
- ✓ The practitioner has placed the public at risk of harm because their practice of the profession constitutes a significant departure from accepted professional standards.

8. What level of evidence meets the threshold requirement to trigger a mandatory notification?

- X Rumours that a practitioner may have behaved in a manner that constitutes notifiable conduct.
- X A report from reliable sources that a practitioner may have behaved in a manner that constitutes notifiable conduct.
- ✓ A reasonable belief based on direct observation of conduct that may constitute notifiable conduct.
- X Suspicion that a practitioner may have behaved in a manner that constitutes notifiable conduct.

Further information on Mandatory Notifications is available [here](#).

### Advertising and Social Media

Anyone advertising regulated health services, including individual health practitioners, must make sure that their advertisements comply with the National Law and other relevant legislation.

Social media includes work-related and personal accounts on social networks such as Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn, and practitioners advertising through social media need to ensure all material complies with their obligations under the National Law.

9. Is advertising that contains the following allowable?

- ✓ Provision of public health information that helps consumers improve their health, based on reputable evidence.
- ✓ Warning statements about surgical/invasive procedures.
- ✓ Qualifications and experience.
- X Time-limited offers.
- X Claims that treatments are guaranteed to cure.
- X Offers of gifts or discounts without stating terms and conditions.
- X Bonuses or bulk purchasing discounts.
- ✓ Office details.
- ✓ Fees.
- X Testimonials.

10. Which of the following statements concerning social media are true?

- ✓ Unsubstantiated claims are not allowed, even on private social media accounts.
- ✓ Ethical and regulatory responsibilities are the same when interacting online as when interacting in person.
- X Client confidentiality doesn't apply on social media.

- ✓ Information presented in an unbiased, evidence-based context is allowable in social media.
- X A practitioner can post anything they like to their private account, provided their privacy settings are at the highest level.
- ✓ Privacy and confidentiality obligations apply because information circulated on social media may end up in the public domain.

Further information on Advertising and Social Media is available [here](#).

### Criminal History

11. Criminal history is defined in the National Law. Which of the following are included in the definition?

- ✓ Every conviction of the person for an offence.
- X Criminal history is relevant only if a conviction has been recorded.
- X Criminal history is relevant only in jurisdictions covered under the National Law (i.e. within the Commonwealth of Australia).
- ✓ Every charge made against a person for an offence.
- X Criminal history is relevant only after commencement of the National Law.

12. Please indicate whether you think the following statements are correct or not.

- X If a person is unsure whether their criminal history is relevant, they don't need to notify the Board.
- X If a person has a criminal history they will be automatically de-registered.
- ✓ The Board determines on a case-by-case basis whether the criminal history is relevant to the person's practice of physiotherapy.

Further information on Criminal History is available [here](#).