

## Communiqué

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The 67<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Physiotherapy Board of Australia (the Board) was held on 30 October 2015 at the Sydney Office of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) office.

This communiqué outlines the issues and decisions from this meeting, and 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.

### Registration renewal is due soon

Online renewal of registration is now open for physiotherapists registered in Australia.

Physiotherapists who are due to renew their registration with the Physiotherapy Board of Australia (the Board) by 30 November can apply online now.

Physiotherapists are reminded to carefully read the Board's [registration standards](#) which specify the profession's standards of practice before making the required declarations in their application for renewal of registration.

In September the Board announced that it had lowered its fees for the registration period from 1 December 2015 to 30 November 2016. A [fee schedule](#), including the fee arrangements for practitioners whose principal place of practice is NSW<sup>1</sup>, is published on the Board's website.

The National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme) is funded by practitioners' registration fees and there is no cross subsidisation between professions.

A series of reminders to renew are being sent to physiotherapists by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA), on behalf of the Board. The email reminders include a link to [online renewal](#) so it is hoped that physiotherapists acted on an earlier call to update their contact details.

### Expressions of interest to join the Registration and Notifications Committee

The Board will refresh the membership of its Registration and Notifications Committee (RNC). The RNC has duties delegated to it by the National Board which include the consideration of notifications (complaints) made about physiotherapists. An Expression of Interest process will be advertised on the Board's website in the coming days.

The closing date for expressions of interest is Monday, 7 December 2015.

### Panels – express your interest

The Board invites you to express interest in being added to a list of panel members to be called on when a performance and professional standards panel or a health panel hearing is required.

These panels may be infrequent, but being involved is an opportunity to become familiar with the types of notifications the Board receives and the legislation that governs physiotherapy practice, decision-making and administration under the National Law<sup>1</sup>. It is also a good way to be introduced to the work of regulators.

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<sup>1</sup> The Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory

Training is available for appointed panel members. Appointments to the list of approved persons will soon be advertised by the Board.

The closing date to express interest in being added to the list is Monday, 7 December 2015.

For more information, visit the [Panel member recruitment](#) page on AHPRA's website.

### **Quarterly registration data released**

The Board has released its [quarterly registration data](#). The latest report and other statistics are published on our website under *About*.

### **Top tips for using the register**

The [register of practitioners](#) is core to all of our work because it provides up-to-date information about every registered health practitioner. To help the public and employers get the most out of the register, we have developed [these tips](#). In particular, the tips remind anyone responsible for recruiting health practitioners how to use the register to verify a practitioner's registration status.

### **Are your contact details up to date?**

It is important that your contact details are up to date to receive renewal reminders from AHPRA and information from the Board.

You can check your details via the [Login icon](#) at the top right of the AHPRA website.

Email accounts need to be set to receive communications from AHPRA and the Board to avoid misdirection to an account junk box.

### **Follow @AHPRA on Twitter**

AHPRA uses [Twitter](#) to encourage greater discussion about National Board consultations and to host regular Twitter chats on important topics.

### **Conclusion**

We publish a range of information about registration and our expectations of registered physiotherapists on our website at [www.physiotherapyboard.gov.au](http://www.physiotherapyboard.gov.au) or [www.ahpra.gov.au](http://www.ahpra.gov.au).

For more information or help with questions about your registration, please send a web enquiry form or contact AHPRA on 1300 419 495.

### **Paul Shinkfield**

Chair

2 November 2015