

Communiqué

December 2016 meeting of the Physiotherapy Board of Australia

The 81st meeting of the Physiotherapy Board of Australia (the Board) was held on 16 December 2016 in the National Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) office in Melbourne.

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.

Renewal of registration – late applications

Renewal of registration for physiotherapists ended on 30 November 2016.

If you have not yet renewed, you can still apply up until **31 December 2016**, however, you will have to pay a late fee.

The quickest and easiest way to renew your registration is online. You can keep practising during the late period but must apply for renewal by **31 December**.

Under the National Law, if you do not apply to renew your registration within one month of your registration expiry date, your registration will lapse and your name will be removed from the Register of Physiotherapists. This means you cannot practise in Australia until a new application for registration is approved.

If you wish to practise you must make a new application for registration. Fast track application forms will be available on the Board's website under *Registration/Forms* during **January 2017**. If you are submitting a fast track application in January, you cannot practise until your application is processed and you have received confirmation from AHPRA that your application for registration has been successful.

Information about renewal, including renewal FAQ, is available on the [Board's website](#).

Revised recency of practice registration standard

The Board's revised recency of practice registration standard took effect on 1 December 2015. This means when you renew your registration at the end of November 2017 you must declare whether or not you have met the requirements of the revised standard.

The revised standard applies to all registered physiotherapists except those who are registered as non-practising.

The key change to the Board's revised recency of practice standard is the requirement for a minimum number of hours of practice. To meet the revised standard's requirements practitioner must practise in their chosen scope of practice for a minimum of 450 hours in the previous three years or 150 hours in the previous 12 months.

Read more about the revised standard in the [Board's FAQ](#).

AHPRA Performance Report July-September 2016

The July to September 2016 quarterly performance reports for the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) and the National Boards are now available.

The reports, which are part of an ongoing drive by AHPRA and the National Boards to increase their accountability and transparency, include data specific to each state and territory.

Each report covers AHPRA and the National Boards' main areas of activity:

- managing applications for registration as a health practitioner
- managing notifications about the health, performance and conduct of registered health practitioners and offences against the National Law, and
- monitoring health practitioners and students with restrictions on their registration.

The reports are available on the [Statistics page](#).

To provide feedback on the reports please email: reportingfeedback@ahpra.gov.au.

Are your contact details up-to-date?

It is important 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.

Further information

We publish a range of information about registration and our expectations of registered physiotherapists on our website at www.physiotherapyboard.gov.au or 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.

Season's greetings

On behalf of the Board I would like to wish all members of the physiotherapy profession and our stakeholders a health and happy festive season.

Charles Flynn

Chair

19 December 2016