

Communiqué

13 July 2015

The 44th meeting of the Chinese Medicine Board of Australia (the Board) was held on 22 June 2015 at the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency's (AHPRA) National Office in Melbourne, Victoria. This communiqué provides key decisions made at the meeting.

This communiqué is published on the Board's [website](#) and an announcement via email is sent to a broad range of stakeholders.

Please forward the communiqué to colleagues who may be interested in the work of the Board.

Revised English language skills and criminal history registration standards in effect

From 1 July 2015, two revised registration standards – the English language skills registration standard and the criminal history registration standard – are in effect. Both these standards were developed after a review of the current standards and public consultation. They are approved by the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council.

The Board's website has been updated with both the [revised registration standards](#).

Call for applications for appointment to the Chinese Medicine Board list of approved persons for appointment to panels, or the Registration and Notifications Committee

The Board seeks applications for appointment to either the list of approved persons for appointment to health panels, performance and professional standards hearings panels (practitioners only) and/or the Registration and Notifications Committee (practitioners and community members) from:

- qualified registered Chinese medicine practitioners registered in the division of Chinese herbal medicine, acupuncture and/or Chinese herbal dispensing, and
- community members.

While applicants may apply for both vacancies, successful candidates will only be appointed to either the Registration and Notifications Committee or the list of approved persons for appointment to panels in order to avoid any potential conflicts of interest. Applications are being accepted from all jurisdictions.

List of approved persons

Under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory (the National Law), a Board convenes health panels and performance and professional standards panels when required to hold hearings into specific health, performance or conduct matters for individual registered health professionals. Such panels consist of members chosen from a Board's list of approved persons.

The Board is seeking registered practitioners with five (5) years practice experience for the list of approved persons who reside in all states and territories (except NSW*).

**Recruitment for panel members is in accordance with section 183(2) of the National Law, to the extent practicable, will exclude individuals whose residence or principal place of practice is in a co-regulatory jurisdiction (i.e. NSW).*

Registration and Notifications Committee

The Board is also seeking applications from registered practitioners and community members for appointment to the Board's Registration and Notifications Committee.

Registered health practitioner applicants must possess at least five (5) years clinical experience and a minimum qualification of a Bachelor Degree of Chinese Medicine. It is preferred that applicants are registered under two of the three divisions of Chinese medicine registration.

Practitioners and community members must have the ability to analyse/synthesise and read large volumes of information as well as a strong understanding of the health regulation scheme.

More information about the [Registration and Notifications Committee](#) is available on the Board's website.

All appointments are made by the Board under the National Law and your application will be assessed by a Selection Advisory Panel. Appointments are for up to three years, with eligibility for re-appointment, and are expected to commence in late 2015.

Expressions of interest close Monday, 13 July 2015.

A [candidate information pack and application forms](#) are available on the Board's website.

End of grandparenting arrangements

On 30 June 2015, the grandparenting provisions in the National Law that allowed some Chinese medicine practitioners to become registered expired.

Affected practitioners

Chinese medicine practitioners who have not yet applied for registration and do not meet the qualifications requirements of section 53 of the National Law will be affected.

From 1 July 2015, the only way to become registered will be by completing an approved program of study, demonstrating substantial equivalence or doing an exam or assessment as required by the Board.

Only Chinese medicine practitioners who are registered with the Board can practise using protected titles or make claims to be qualified to practise Chinese medicine. Penalties exist if you pretend to be registered (or lead someone to believe that you are) when you are not. You can check your registration on the [AHPRA homepage](#) using the *Check your health practitioner is registered* search.

Registration for internationally trained Chinese medicine practitioners from 1 July 2015

The Board has established an interim framework for assessing the substantial equivalence of international qualifications for the purposes of section 53(b) of the National Law, detailing how to apply and what is required.

Details are under the *Registration* tab of the Board's website.

Updating contact details

To check or update the contact details you have lodged with AHPRA, access the online services panel for practitioners on the homepage of the Board's website and click *Update your contact details*. Enter your user ID, date of birth and password (please note that your user ID is not your registration number). If you don't remember your user ID or password, contact us [online](#) or phone 1300 419 495 for help.

Follow @AHPRA on Twitter

AHPRA will be using [Twitter](#) to encourage a greater overall response to National Board consultations and to host regular Twitter chats on important topics.

Important information for practitioners

The National Board publishes a range of information about registration, including its expectations of practitioners, at www.chinesemedicineboard.gov.au. For more details or help with questions about your registration please send an [online enquiry form](#) or contact AHPRA on 1300 419 495.

Professor Craig Zimitat

Deputy Chair, Chinese Medicine Board of Australia
13 July 2015