

Communiqué: Chinese Medicine Board of Australia

The 60th meeting of the Chinese Medicine Board of Australia (the Board) was held on 22 November 2016 in Melbourne.

This communiqué provides key decisions made at the meeting. It is also 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.

Chinese Medicine Reference Group

The call for expressions of interest (EOI) in membership closed in November and the Board was extremely pleased to receive 31 EOIs. This, of course, made it difficult to select members. The Board applied the following criteria:

- gender balance (and if unbalanced female favoured)
- dual registration
- jurisdictional balance
- rural/regional perspective, and
- research experience.

The Board has appointed four individual members:

1. Ms Carolyn Ee, from NSW
2. Ms Geraldine Robinson, from Tasmania
3. Mr Kevin Ryan, from Victoria
4. Ms Dina Tsiopelas, from South Australia

The Board congratulates the individual members and they will join with national professional association representatives, consumer representatives and educational institution representatives at the first meeting of the Chinese Medicine Reference Group on 22 February 2017.

Registration data

The Board has released its quarterly registration data. Read the latest report and other statistics on the [Statistics page](#) of the Board's website.

Health professions agreement

The Board and AHPRA have published the health profession agreement (HPA) for 2016–20. The HPA sets out the partnership between the Board and AHPRA, and the services AHPRA will provide in supporting the Board to carry out its functions.

The 2016–20 Chinese Medicine Board of Australia and AHPRA Health Profession Agreement is available on the [Health Professions Agreements](#) page.

Reminder: renewal of registration for 2016/17, late fees and lapsed registrations

Registration renewal for Chinese medicine practitioners is due on 30 November 2016. Under the National Law, Chinese medicine practitioners are responsible for renewing their registration on time each year.

Applications for general and non-practising registration renewals received within a month after the expiry date will incur a late fee. Chinese medicine practitioners who do not renew registration within one month of their registration expiry date will have their name removed from the [national register of practitioners](#) and will not be able to practise their profession in Australia until a new application for registration is approved.

2015/16 National Scheme annual report

AHPRA and the National Boards have released their 2015/16 annual report on the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme), providing a comprehensive record of the operations of the National Scheme for the 12 months ending 30 June 2016.

The Board intensified its focus on processing the last surge of grandparenting registration applications during 2015/16. The Board also implemented the special provisions to provide an available pathway to registration for existing practitioners who did not have contemporary, approved qualifications.

The Board wanted as quick and easy a process as possible for existing practitioners while maintaining an emphasis on protecting public safety. To ensure longstanding practitioners were not unreasonably left off the register, the Board's Registration and Notifications Committee increased the monthly meeting schedule to fortnightly, full-day sessions at various times throughout the year.

For detailed data and information relating to the Board in 2015/16, please see the [2015/16 annual report](#). The report provides a nationwide snapshot of the work of AHPRA and the Boards and highlights a multi-profession approach to risk-based regulation with a clear focus on ensuring that Australians have a safe and competent health workforce.

Supplementary tables that break down data across categories such as registrations, notifications, statutory offences, tribunals and appeals, and monitoring and compliance can also be found on the annual report website.

In the coming months, AHPRA and the National Boards will also publish summaries of our work regulating health practitioners in every state and territory, which will be released in late 2016. Expanded, profession-specific summaries will also be released and progressively published from early 2017.

News from AHPRA

The Board works in partnership with AHPRA and the other 13 National Boards to deliver the [National Registration and Accreditation Scheme](#) (the National Scheme).

While we publish [news](#) specific to our work in regulating Chinese medicine practitioners, AHPRA [publishes](#) updates on work from across the National Scheme. This includes communiqués from key meetings with government and other stakeholders.

We encourage you to review these from time to time. You are also able to subscribe to the AHPRA newsletter by [registering here](#).

Updating your 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 uses [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 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, notifications or other matters relevant to the National Scheme, refer to information published on www.ahpra.gov.au or [contact AHPRA](#), send an [online enquiry form](#) or call on 1300 419 495.

Professor Charlie C Xue

Chair, Chinese Medicine Board of Australia

30 November 2016

The Chinese Medicine Board of Australia is the regulator of Chinese medicine practitioners in Australia and acts to protect the public by ensuring that suitably qualified and competent Chinese medicine practitioners are registered. The Board is responsible for developing registration standards, codes and guidelines for Chinese medicine practitioners and managing notifications (complaints) about Chinese medicine practitioners and Chinese medicine students. The Board does this through its powers under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory, and the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme, supported by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA). The Board's work in regulating Australia's Chinese medicine practitioners in the public interest is underpinned by regulatory principles, which encourage a responsive, risk-based approach to regulation.*

**Except in NSW and Qld which have co-regulatory arrangements.*