

Communiqué

The 54th meeting of the Chinese Medicine Board of Australia (the Board) was held on 24 May 2016 in Brisbane.

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.

Sydney forum for registered Chinese medicine practitioners

The National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for Chinese medicine practitioner registration has been in operation for over three years. The Chinese Medicine Board of Australia (the Board) is conducting a number of meetings/forums to engage more directly with the profession. This has been identified as a strategic priority for the Board.

The Board would like to invite you to this forum to discuss regulation and encourage the integration of registration standards, codes and guidelines into your daily practice. This event is free.

Date: Monday 20 June 2016

Time: 5:30pm – 7:00pm. There will be a Board presentation, time for questions and a networking session with Board members.

Venue: SMC Conference and Function Centre, 66 Goulburn St, Sydney
[Directions via Google maps](#)

Parking and transport: Museum Station is the closest railway station.
Wilson Parking is diagonally opposite the venue.

RSVP: No later than 5.00pm, Thursday 16 June 2016
Email cmbaupdate@ahpra.gov.au with your full name (surname in capitals) and confirmation that you would like to attend the forum. Please register your attendance as places are limited.

Topics

- Role of the Chinese Medicine Board of Australia and the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA)
- Update: Policy – Guidelines for safe Chinese herbal medicine practice
- Update: Notifications trends
- Questions and answers

National restrictions library

Restrictions (conditions and undertakings) are a primary regulatory tool used to protect the public. Regulators place restrictions on registration as necessary in the course of an investigation and/or disciplinary procedure or as a result of a disciplinary procedure. Restrictions may also be imposed at the time of registration or renewal of registration, for various reasons.

A National Restrictions Library has been developed to provide a consolidated structure for common restrictions used across the regulatory functions of all of the National Boards and to support:

- consistency in recommendations from AHPRA to the National Boards and delegates
- consistency in the restrictions appearing on the national public register of health practitioners, and
- a best practice approach to monitoring compliance with restrictions.

More information about the National Restrictions Library, including a copy of the contents, can be found on [AHPRA's website](#).

Quarterly registration data released to end of March 2016

The National Board has released its [quarterly registration data](#). The National Registration and Accreditation Scheme requires that information about every registered health practitioner in Australia is published on a single national [register of practitioners](#). For the first time, it is possible to produce accurate reports on the number of practitioners registered in each profession in Australia.

Chinese medicine programs approved

The Board received three reports from the Chinese Medicine Accreditation Committee (CMAC) on its accreditation decisions following a detailed assessment process against the [Chinese medicine accreditation standards](#).

The CMAC is the accreditation authority for Chinese medicine education in Australia and is required under the National Law¹ to provide a report to the National Board about the authority's accreditation of a program of study. The Board is required by the National Law to make a decision on approval of an accredited program.

The Board considered the reports and approved the following programs for the purpose of registration:

1. Master of Applied Science (Acupuncture) program offered by **RMIT University**.
2. Master of Applied Science (Chinese herbal medicine) program offered by **RMIT University**.
3. Bachelor of Health Science (Acupuncture) program offered by **Endeavour College of Natural Health**, for delivery at the Adelaide, Brisbane, Gold Coast, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney campuses.

Health profession agreement and fees

The health profession agreement between the Board and the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) is being finalised and will be published on the Board's website soon. It sets out the services that AHPRA will provide to support the Board to regulate Chinese medicine practitioners. The agreement includes information about the Board's financial operations and fees.

Top tips for using the register

The register of practitioners is core to the work of AHPRA and the National Boards because it provides up-to-date information about every registered health practitioner, including Chinese medicine practitioners. 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.

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 will be using Twitter to encourage a greater overall response to National Board consultations and to host regular Twitter chats on important topics.

¹ Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory (the National Law)

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 Registration and Accreditation 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

15 June 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.*