

Communiqué: Chinese Medicine Board of Australia

September 2017 meeting

The 68th meeting of the Chinese Medicine Board of Australia (the Board) was held on 26 September 2017 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 Board's work.

Upcoming forums: invitation for Chinese medicine practitioners, students and stakeholders

The Board is inviting Chinese medicine practitioners, students and stakeholders of Chinese medicine to attend information forums being held around Australia.

State	Dates	Time
Adelaide, South Australia	Monday 11 December Adelaide Karstens 19 Young Street, Adelaide	6:00pm to 7:30pm

There will be a Board presentation and time for questions and discussion, then networking and light refreshments.

Please put this date in your diary for planning and when you receive an invitation or see the details on the website for your location, RSVP about your attendance.

Fees for 2017-18

The Board has frozen the registration fee at \$579. It will cover the registration period for most practitioners from 1 December 2017 to 30 November 2018. A full fee schedule, is published on the Board's [website](#).

The National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme) is funded by practitioners' registration fees. The decision to keep the fee frozen ensures practitioners are not unduly burdened, but still provides sufficient income to allow the Board to carry out its function under the National Law¹ and its duty to protect the public.

Legislative changes passed to establish a new National Board for paramedicine and provide stronger protection for the public

The Health Practitioner Regulation National Law and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017 has been passed by the Queensland Parliament and has received royal assent. This Bill contains amendments to the National Law that will apply in all States and Territories except Western Australia (South Australia also needs to make a regulation to give effect to the amendments). The Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Western Australia has also passed a corresponding amendment Bill (the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (WA) Amendment Bill 2017*) which will now be considered by the Legislative Council.

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

The passing of the Bill in Queensland marks a significant day for health practitioner regulation as these are the first legislative amendments to the National Law since the start of the National Scheme in 2010.

The changes to the National Law will enable the Paramedicine Board of Australia to be established with the appointment of inaugural board members by Health Ministers in the near future. Also, new measures that strengthen public protection will be introduced and there will be formal recognition of nursing and midwifery as two separate professions regulated by the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA).

To find out what the amendments include read the [news item](#) on the AHPRA website.

Decisions about proposed amendments to the National Law are made by Health Ministers and the governments of all States and Territories, with the changes progressed through the Queensland Parliament (as the host jurisdiction of the National Law), and the Western Australian Parliament. AHPRA will work with National Boards, governments, health departments, professions and consumer representatives to support the implementation of the changes to the National Law into daily operations.

While the Queensland Bill has received royal assent, commencement of many of the changes to the National Law are likely to occur in a staggered process over the coming months.

The Health Practitioner Regulation and National Law and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2017 as passed by the Queensland Parliament can be accessed the [Queensland parliament website](#).

More information on the regulation of paramedics under the National Scheme can be accessed on the [AHPRA website](#).

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 social media

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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

26 September 2017

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.*