

Communiqué

22 March 2016

The 52nd meeting of the Chinese Medicine Board of Australia (the Board) was held on 22 March 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.

Local data summaries from a National Scheme

The National Boards and AHPRA have published [reports for each state and territory](#) on the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme).

The reports provide a unique insight on local outcomes within a scheme for which the core focus is protection of the public. They are for the 2014/15 year of the scheme.

The summaries provide local data on registration types, notifications (complaints) and mandatory notifications for the regulated health professions, for each state and territory.

National awareness campaign

You may have seen the start of the AHPRA national awareness campaign. **Know your obligations**, the first of three phases, directed at employers of health practitioners, launched at the close of last year. The message has been shared over social media through targeted ads resulting in a doubling of our online community.

The next phase of the campaign is targeted at practitioners. Under the headline of **The not-so-small print**, practitioners are encouraged to stay up to date with regulation changes as they occur, and to be aware of their obligations as registered practitioners. Advertisements will be rolled out later this month across a mix of social media, industry publications and newsletters.

The final phase will be directed at the public to increase awareness of the [national register of practitioners](#).

Approved programs of study

At the end of June 2015, the grandparenting provisions of the National Law expired. Importantly, that means unless you were previously registered under another law, in order to register now, you must hold a qualification from an approved program of study.

Approved programs of study are published in the *Education* section on [AHPRA's website](#) after they have been accredited and approved by the Board.

The list of accredited programs will soon be published in the *Accreditation* section on the Board's [website](#).

English language skills registration standard

The Board would like to remind all new applicants and practitioners to be familiar with the *English language skills registration standard* that came in to effect from 1 July 2015.

More information can be found in the [Registration standards](#) section on the Board's website. Additional resources for Chinese medicine practitioners about this standard are also available on the [AHPRA website](#).

Call for applications – Chinese Medicine Accreditation Committee

The Chinese Medicine Board of Australia (the Board) seeks applications from suitably qualified and experienced persons to be appointed to the Chinese Medicine Accreditation Committee (the Accreditation Committee).

The Accreditation Committee is established by the Board as the accreditation authority for Chinese medicine under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory (the National Law).

The functions of the Accreditation Committee include:

- developing and reviewing accreditation standards
- assessing and monitoring programs of study
- advising the Board on issues in education and clinical training, and
- overseeing the assessment of the knowledge, clinical skills and professional attributes of overseas-qualified Chinese medicine practitioners seeking registration in Australia.

Applications will be assessed by a selection advisory panel. Appointments are made by the Board under the National Law. Appointments may be for up to three years, with eligibility for reappointment, and are expected to start in mid-2016.

Applications close on Monday 2 May 2016.

Further information on the role and the application process is found in the [News](#) section on the Board's website. For enquiries, please email statutoryappointments@ahpra.gov.au.

Brisbane forum for practitioners, students and stakeholders of Chinese medicine

Chinese medicine practice has been regulated under the National Scheme for more than three years. The Board is conducting a number of meetings to engage more directly with the profession. This has been identified as a strategic priority for the Board. Over the last 12 months, the Board has conducted engagement meetings in Sydney, Perth, Adelaide and Melbourne.

The Board recently held a forum in Melbourne on 21 March 2016, with a full house of 80 attendees.

The Board would like to invite you to its next forum in Brisbane, to discuss regulation and encourage the integration of registration standards, codes and guidelines into your daily practice. There will be a Board presentation, time for questions and networking.

Please register your attendance to this free event as places are limited.

Date: Monday 23 May 2016

Time: 5.30pm till 7.00pm

Venue: George Williams Hotel, 317-325 George Street, Brisbane

Keep an eye on the [News](#) section on the Board's website for further details.

Employer obligations

If you employ registered health practitioners, you have an important obligation to ensure that they hold current registration and that you understand your mandatory notification requirements under the National Law.

AHPRA has published [resources](#) to help you understand and meet your obligations, which are designed to complement your recruitment requirements and processes. These materials state exactly what your obligations are and it is important that you are familiar with them.

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.

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
22 March 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.*