

Communiqué: 14th meeting Chinese Medicine Board of Australia (CMBA) - 16 October 2012

Review of Registration Standards and Common Codes and Guidelines

The CMBA has decided join in the impending review because:

- Chinese medicine is part of the national scheme now and needs to align its activities and Codes and Guidelines as all other Boards do.
- For the codes and guidelines that are shared by all 14 Boards, the CMBA needs to be cautious about making changes to such “shared/common” documents which require consensus of the other 13 Boards; CMBA should therefore be involved in this AHPRA-wide review;
- However, the CMBA has already provided relevant feed-back previously gathered throughout our consultation process to be considered as part of this broader review
- By joining in, Chinese medicine will not be “out of sync” with the other regulated health professions
- As part of the broad review for all 14 professions, Chinese medicine will be up to date with the common Codes and Guidelines and will avoid having “out-of-date” documents in the near future

Statement About Chinese Medicine

The Chinese Medicine Board of Australia has noted widespread use of the terms such as “complementary” and “alternative” medicine in the community with a high degree of variation in meaning. This is confusing in itself and the variable inclusion of Chinese medicine confuses the public about what Chinese medicine is. The Board therefore agreed to develop a succinct statement explaining what Chinese medicine is, in the context of the national law which protects specific words and titles and including how it is practised in the Australian healthcare context.

This statement will shortly be published on the CMBA website as a reference for the community including the scientific community.

The purpose of this is to accurately inform the public.

Professor Charlie Xue

Chair

26 October 2012