

## Communiqué

### 22nd meeting of the Chinese Medicine Board of Australia, 25 June 2013

The June meeting of the Chinese Medicine Board of Australia (the National Board) was held on 25 June 2013 at the AHPRA National Office in Melbourne. This communiqué provides key decisions made at this meeting.

This communiqué is published on the Board website and an announcement to a broad range of stakeholders also sent by email. Please forward it onto colleagues who may be interested in the work of the National Board.

#### **Purpose of the public register**

The national scheme has provided online access to a national public register of practitioners for the fourteen professions covered by the scheme. With growing experience of the use of this register, a number of questions and issues have emerged around the use and purpose of the register.

The National Board considered the principles proposed for the ongoing development and delivery of the public register, including to ensure that the public has access to information (regarding the training and qualifications relevant to practitioner registration and the current sanctions and disciplinary history of practitioners) in making a choice of practitioner, and to provide information in a way that is easy to understand and access consistent with the register function and legislation. The Board remains concerned that the interest of protecting public health and safety would be best served by an enhanced search function on the register that allowed the community to check on registration status of practitioners when only a business name or address is known.

#### **Policies, Standards, Codes and Guidelines Committee (Policy Committee)**

The Policy Committee have made substantial progress on draft Supervision Guidelines. The Committee are working towards putting these documents out for preliminary consultation within the next three months.

#### **Registration Committee Update**

The Board noted that there are 4060 individual applicants with general registration as Chinese medicine practitioners. There are currently 107 applications in assessment and in the process of being reviewed by the Chinese Medicine Board of Australia Registration Committee (the Registration Committee).

#### **Notification Committee Update**

The Notification Committee consider notification matters and compliance matters. There are currently 16 open notification matters and 10 compliance matters involving Chinese medicine practitioners. Notification matters are at various stages in the notification process, from preliminary assessment to investigation to tribunal hearings. The only jurisdictions which do not have open notifications are the Australian Capital Territory, Northern Territory and Tasmania. Further information regarding notifications and outcomes can be found at: <http://www.ahpra.gov.au/Notifications.aspx>

#### **Consultations**

The preliminary consultation period for the common registration standards - *English Language Skills Registration Standard* and the *Criminal History Registration Standard* has ended. Responses are being reviewed, and an opportunity for public consultation will be available later in the year. These documents are mostly common across National Boards and consultation will be coordinated across all the Boards.

#### **Accreditation Committee**

The Accreditation Committee has developed accreditation standards. Accreditation standards help to ensure that education providers give students the knowledge, skills and professional attributes to competently practice in the profession.

The preliminary consultation period for the Accreditation Standards and Process has ended. Public consultation will be available later in the year.



### Newsletter

The National Board May newsletter is available at: <http://www.chinesemedicineboard.gov.au/News.aspx>.

### Conclusion

The National Board publishes a range of information about registration and the National Board's expectations of practitioners on its website at [www.chinesemedicineboard.gov.au/](http://www.chinesemedicineboard.gov.au/)

For more detail or with questions about your registration please send an [online enquiry form](#) or contact AHRPA on 1300 419 495.

Yours sincerely,

**Professor Vivian Lin**  
**Deputy Chair, Chinese Medicine Board of Australia, 2 July 2013**