

## Communiqué

### 25th meeting of the Chinese Medicine Board of Australia, 24 September 2013

The 25th meeting of the Chinese Medicine Board of Australia (the National Board) was held on 24 September 2013 at the AHPRA National Office, 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.

#### AHPRA Update

##### Preparations for the 2013 Annual Report

The next AHPRA and National Boards Annual Report is due for submission to the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council (the AHWMC) by 30 September 2013, so that individual Ministers can make arrangements to table the report in the Parliaments of each state, territory and the Commonwealth. Tabling of the Annual Report is a requirement under the National Law.

The planned publication date is 1 November 2013.

##### NSW Health Professional Council Authority Newsletter

The Legal News of the Health Professional Council Authority (HPCA) is produced each month and provides a summary of the relevant recent NSW Tribunal, Professional Standards Committee and Courts cases. It also includes important health practitioner cases from other States and Territories. The latest issue contains useful links to information from National Boards, AHPRA and the Ministry of Health.

The NSW Health Professional Council Authority has published its latest legal newsletter, accessible from the HCPA website: <http://www.hpca.nsw.gov.au/Legal-Information/Legal-News/default.aspx>

#### CMBA Registration Committee Update

##### Renewal period

The Board noted that general or non-practising Chinese medicine practitioners are due to renew their registration with the Board by 30 November. The Board also noted that:

- last year over 90 per cent of all health practitioner registration renewals due by 30 November were submitted online
- practitioners will still be asked to provide declarations about meeting the Board's registration standards, and
- practitioners could be asked to give information in support of their declarations

Further information regarding the Board's [registration standards](#) are available on the website.

##### Quarterly registration data

The Chinese Medicine Board of Australia has released its quarterly registration data.

The data includes information about types of registration held, principal place of practice, endorsements, registrant age and gender. Read the latest report and other statistics on our [statistics page](#).

##### Practitioners with Education conditions on their registration

Information to assist registered practitioners with education conditions on their registration, has been published. The frequently asked questions can be found at:

<http://www.chinesemedicineboard.gov.au/Codes-Guidelines/FAQ/Education-registration-conditions.aspx>



The Board has an agreed list of courses and units of study. The list was compiled from courses and units already provided by approved and accredited Chinese Medicine education providers.

If the course or unit of study is listed on the Board's [agreed list of educational courses and units of study](#), for the purpose of satisfying education registration condition requirements, a practitioner does not need to advise the Board or apply for approval prior to enrolling in the course or unit of study.

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

#### **Infection prevention and control guidelines for acupuncture practice**

The Chinese Medicine Board of Australia (the National Board) has issued its [Infection prevention and control guidelines for acupuncture practice](#), which apply nationally to all registered Chinese medicine practitioners in the division of acupuncture. The guidelines complement the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) *Australian guidelines for the prevention and control of infection in healthcare* (NHMRC Guidelines), which have been adopted by the National Board. This is the first Australia wide guidelines specifically relating to acupuncture practice.

All registered Chinese medicine practitioners in the division of acupuncture must comply with:

- the NHMRC Guidelines
- the National Board guidelines, and
- relevant state, territory and local government requirements that apply to their place of business.

The Board has published an [explanatory statement](#) and [FAQs](#) to assist practitioners understand their obligations under the policy.

#### **Audit Update**

The Board noted an update regarding practitioner audit for the profession. Further information will be available in the October newsletter.

#### **Protected titles, endorsement and holding out under the National Law**

The Board has published information including: [Using a protected title position statement](#) and [Protected titles, endorsement and holding out FAQs](#) which is accessible to practitioners and the public.

It is hoped that these publications and the information contained within address concerns raised by Chinese medicine professional associations.

#### **Newsletter**

The next newsletter is expected to be published October 2013. It will be available on the website, and also emailed out to registered practitioners. Please make sure that AHPRA have your correct email to ensure you receive the newsletter.

#### **Important Information for Practitioners**

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 AHPRA on 1300 419 495.

Yours sincerely,

**Professor Charlie Xue**  
**Chair**  
**Chinese Medicine Board of Australia**  
**2 October 2013**