

## Communiqué

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8 October 2014

The 36<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Chinese Medicine Board of Australia (the National Board) was held on 23 September 2014 at AHPRA's National Office in Melbourne. This communiqué provides key decisions made at the meeting.

This communiqué is published on the National Board [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 National Board.

### Fora for practitioners and students of Chinese medicine

The National Board is conducting a number of forums to improve direct engagement with the profession. Stakeholder engagement has been identified as a strategic priority by the Board for 2014/15.

The first forum was held in June 2014 in Sydney, followed by the second one in Melbourne, Victoria on the evening of Monday 22 September 2014.

A third forum will be held in Brisbane on Monday, 24 November 2014. Details will be available on the National Board [website](#) in October.

### Renew registration online

The 2014 renewal of registration campaign for Chinese medicine practitioners (practitioners) has commenced.

AHPRA has sent email reminders to practitioners who have provided an email address. Practitioners should ensure that we have the correct contact information on record, so as to not miss future renewal reminders. Please check your contact details, at the [Your Account](#) link on the AHPRA homepage, and enter your User ID, date of birth and password (please note that your User ID is not your registration number). If you cannot remember your user ID or password, contact us [online](#) or call: 1300 419 495.

The registration renewal date for practitioners with general or non-practising registration is 30 November 2014. The quickest and easiest way to renew registration is [online](#).

Renewal applications received during December will incur a late payment fee.

Under the National Law<sup>1</sup>, practitioners who do not renew their registration within one month of their registration expiry date must be removed from the [national register](#) of health practitioners. Their registration will lapse and they will not be able to practise Chinese medicine in Australia. A fast track application can be made, but only during January. The practitioner cannot practise until the application is processed and the national register is updated.

Practitioners should read the Board's registration standards carefully before applying to renew as information in support of declarations made in an application could be requested.

For more information please refer to [Renewal FAQ's](#) available on the Board's website.

### Supervision guidelines for Chinese medicine practitioners

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<sup>1</sup> The Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory ([the National Law](#))

The Board has considered all feedback from the public consultation and will soon publish the final guidelines.

It will also publish an 'Explanatory Statement' to explain its response to feedback received.

### **Criminal history audit outcomes**

In November 2013, AHPRA commenced auditing practitioners against the criminal history standard, which included random samples of practitioners from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice, Chinese Medicine, Medical Radiation Practice, Physiotherapy, Psychology, Occupational Therapy and Osteopathy professions. For Chinese medicine, 26 of those audited and checked for criminal history resulted in disclosable court outcomes some of which had not previously been disclosed.

A disclosable court outcome is a positive criminal history result. Each state and territory determines what is classified as criminal history in their jurisdiction, and in some states this includes matters such as traffic infringements. None of the matters revealed in the audit were serious enough to be referred to the Board to consider regulatory action. The Board encourages practitioners to carefully consider their response before signing their declaration about their criminal history when they apply to renew their registration, as these declarations will be subject to random auditing.

### **Consultation paper for the three-year review of NRAS**

On Friday 29<sup>th</sup> August, the consultation paper for the scheduled and independent three-year review of the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme) was published. The consultation paper is considering the National Scheme as a whole including the work of Boards, AHPRA, accrediting entities and the role of governments. The consultation paper can be accessed [here](#).

The review team expects to make its recommendations early in 2015, which will then be subject to final decisions by all health ministers.

The deadline for submissions to the consultation paper is 10 October.

### **Updating contact details**

To check the contact details you have lodged with AHPRA, go to the [Your Account](#) link on the AHPRA homepage, and enter your User ID, date of birth and password (please note that your User ID is not your registration number). If you cannot remember your user ID or password, contact us [online](#) or call: 1300 419 495.

### **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 National Board publishes a range of information about registration, including its expectations of practitioners, at [www.chinesemedicineboard.gov.au](http://www.chinesemedicineboard.gov.au). For more details or help with questions about your registration please send an [online enquiry form](#) or contact AHPRA on 1300 419 495.

### **Professor Charlie Xue**

Chair, Chinese Medicine Board of Australia  
8 October 2014