

## Communiqué: Chinese Medicine Board of Australia

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The 59th meeting of the Chinese Medicine Board of Australia (the Board) was held on 25 October 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.

### Chinese Medicine Reference Group

The call for expressions of interest in membership was published on 4 October 2016 and closed on 14 November 2016. Applications were sought from individual Chinese medicine practitioners to be part of the Reference Group. Applicants were to respond to the following selection criteria and include a paragraph explaining why they wished to be part of the Reference Group, and what they had to offer:

1. Good standing in the profession (supported by referees).
2. Demonstrable high level communication skills.
3. Demonstrable team skills.

Reference Group members will receive a sitting fee for attending meetings at the same rate as National Board members for special assignment except where attendance at the meeting is:

- a function of the person's employment, or
- as a professional association representative.

Members eligible for sitting fees will have reasonable travel and accommodation costs covered by the Board. Other costs or situations will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

The Board will announce the Reference Group members in December 2016.

### Reminder: renewal of registration for 2016/17

The Board reminds Chinese medicine practitioners to renew their registration by 30 November 2016, the registration expiry date for general and non-practising registration. Under the National Law, Chinese medicine practitioners are responsible for renewing their registration on time each year. Renewal applications received within a month after the expiry date will incur a late fee.

Chinese medicine practitioners who do not renew registration within one month of their registration expiry date must have their name removed from the [Register of practitioners](#). Their registration will lapse and they will not be able to practise or work as a Chinese medicine practitioner in Australia until a new application for registration is approved.

A series of reminders to renew are being sent to practitioners by AHPRA, on behalf of the Board. The email reminders include links to [online renewal](#) and to a [video](#) which explains the process.

The Board encourages Chinese medicine practitioners to renew online and reminds them to make sure AHPRA has their current contact information to receive future emails and hard copy reminders to renew.

### Graduate applications for registration: Final-year students can apply online now

Chinese medicine students who will soon complete an approved program of study can go online now to apply for registration before they graduate.

Graduates need to be registered as a Chinese medicine practitioner with the Board before they start practising and must meet the Board's registration requirements.

The [online graduate application](#) service on the AHPRA website helps to smooth the path from study to work by enabling students to apply for registration four to six weeks before completing their course. All applicants must send some [supporting documents](#) to AHPRA by mail to complete their application.

### Australian Health Ministers' communiqués published

The Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council has published two communiqués after its most recent meeting, one highlighting the main topics of discussion at the recent COAG Health Council meeting and a second announcing the start of the reviewer for the Independent Review of Accreditation Systems within the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme. Go to the [COAG Health Council website](#) to access this information.

### News from AHPRA

The Board works in partnership with AHPRA and the other 13 National Boards to deliver the [National Registration and Accreditation Scheme](#) (the National Scheme).

While we publish [news](#) specific to our work in regulating Chinese medicine practitioners, AHPRA [publishes](#) updates on work from across the National Scheme. This includes communiqués from key meetings with government and other stakeholders.

We encourage you to review these from time to time. You are also able to subscribe to the AHPRA newsletter by [registering here](#).

### 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 uses [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](http://www.chinesemedicineboard.gov.au).

For more details or help with questions about your registration, notifications or other matters relevant to the National Scheme, refer to information published on [www.ahpra.gov.au](http://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

17 November 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.*