

## Communiqué: Chinese Medicine Board of Australia

### July 2019 meeting

The 87<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Chinese Medicine Board of Australia (the Board) was held on 23 July 2019 in Melbourne.

This communiqué provides details on the main 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 Board's work.

#### Accreditation Committee terms of reference

The Board approved updated terms of reference for the Chinese Medicine Accreditation Committee to take effect from 1 August 2019. The updated terms of reference will be published on the Board's website in the near future.

#### National Scheme news

##### Cultural safety training provider announced

PricewaterhouseCoopers Indigenous Consulting Pty Limited (PIC) in partnership with Griffith University First Peoples Health Unit will deliver cultural safety training to Board and committee members as well as Australian Health Regulation Agency (AHPRA) staff. This appointment is the outcome of a competitive tender process. Cultural safety training is an important first step to ensure that AHPRA and the Boards are working to help health practitioners nationally understand their own connection to culture and unconscious biases, and how these are likely to influence their work.

AHPRA CEO Mr Martin Fletcher said the training is an important milestone and is part of the agency's commitment to support health equity for all Australians, which was publicly made by AHPRA and 36 other signatories in the National Scheme's [Statement of intent](#) last year.

'One of our strategic priorities is helping to embed cultural safety into the health system through our work with over 740,000 registered health practitioners across Australia.

'We want to be a regulator who deeply understands cultural safety and what it means for our work and we want to partner with others to build a culturally safe registered health practitioner workforce across Australia,' Mr Fletcher said.

National Scheme Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Strategy Group member and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Board of Australia Chair, Ms Renee Owen, said everyone has a part to play to achieve health equity.

'We all have a responsibility to understand cultural safety so that we can work to eliminate racism from the health system and enable health equity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. This training is an important step towards ensuring that the regulation of health practitioners is culturally safe', Ms Owen said.

This unique Aboriginal-led collaboration between PwC's Indigenous Consulting, Griffith University's First Peoples Health Unit and the [National Scheme Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Strategy Group](#) will provide a world class, bespoke cultural safety training program supporting the necessary culture transformation of Australia's health professions.

The training to be provided by PwC's Indigenous Consulting in partnership with Griffith University First Peoples Health Unit will be rolled out from the end of 2019.

## Advertising your regulated health service

To protect consumers, the National Law<sup>[1]</sup> includes provisions about advertising regulated health services. The Board has recently included a [list of resources on the Board website](#) that you might find helpful for understanding and meeting your advertising obligations.

Advertising is actions by people or businesses to draw attention to their services. The ways people and businesses can promote services are almost limitless and include all forms of printed and electronic media.

If you are advertising a regulated health service, your advertising must not:

- **be false, misleading or deceptive**, or likely to be misleading or deceptive
- **offer a gift, discount or other inducement**, unless the terms and conditions of the offer are also stated
- **use testimonials or purported testimonials** about the service or business
- **create an unreasonable expectation of beneficial treatment**, or
- directly or indirectly **encourage the indiscriminate or unnecessary use of regulated health services**.

If you're not sure you're meeting your obligations, or if you've been contacted by AHPRA about your advertising there are [steps you can follow](#) to make sure you comply with your professional and legal obligations.

For further details see AHPRA's [advertising resources](#) on their website.

## 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 [home page](#) 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 can't remember your user ID or password, [contact us online](#), or phone 1300 419 495 for help.

## Follow AHPRA on social media

Connect with AHPRA on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [LinkedIn](#) to receive information about important topics for your profession and participate in the discussion.



## 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.

## Distinguished Professor Charlie C. Xue

**Chair  
Chinese Medicine Board of Australia**

23 July 2019

*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 (the National*

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[1] Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory (the National Law).

*Law), as in force in each state and territory, and the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National 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.*