



Communiqué

May 2018 meeting of the Dental Board of Australia

The 96th meeting of the Dental Board of Australia (the Board) was held on Friday 25 May 2018 at the Darwin Office of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA).

This communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations from the Board's meeting, as well as other important information.

We publish this communiqué on our website and email it to a broad range of stakeholders. We encourage you to distribute it to colleagues and interested parties, including in the organisation you work in.

Meeting in Darwin

The Board held its May meeting in Darwin, which provided the opportunity to meet with local registrants and stakeholders. Members of the Board were also provided the opportunity to visit Miwatj Health Aboriginal Corporation in East Arnhem Land, and meet with staff of the Danila Dilba Health Service in Darwin.

Scope of practice review update

The Board is currently carrying out a scheduled review of its *Scope of practice registration standard and Guidelines for scope of practice*.

Public consultation on the standard and guideline has recently been completed, and the Board thanks all registrants and stakeholders who took the time to provide a submission.

The submissions are currently being reviewed and will be published (except those made in confidence) on the Board's [Past consultations](#) page soon.

Newsletter from the Board

The Board has released its latest newsletter. Read it on the [Newsletters](#) page.

Testimonials in health service advertising: Tool to help you get it right

AHPRA and National Boards have developed a tool to help health practitioners understand their obligations about using testimonials and reviews to advertise regulated health services.

Under section 133(1) of the National Law¹ a person must not advertise a regulated health service, or a business that provides a regulated health service, in a way that uses testimonials or purported testimonials about the service or business.

The testimonial tool includes information and flow charts to help practitioners and advertisers understand which testimonials are not allowed and which reviews or feedback can be used in advertising.

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

See our [news item](#) for more information about the testimonial tool which should be used together with our other [advertising resources](#).

The tool is available on the [Check and correct](#) section of the AHPRA website under *Advertising Resources*.

The *Check and correct* section provides health practitioners and other advertisers with the ability to check and correct their advertising to make sure it meets their professional and legal obligations.

Visit the AHPRA website to download a copy of the [testimonial tool](#) and to read our other resources, including:

- [summary of advertising obligations](#)
- [frequently asked questions](#)
- [words to be wary about](#)
- [examples of compliant and non-compliant advertising](#), and
- [self-assessment tool](#).

This work is part of a broader strategy – the [Advertising compliance and enforcement strategy for the National Scheme](#) – which was started last year.

Are your contact details up-to-date?

It is important that your contact details are up-to-date to receive renewal reminders from AHPRA and information from the Board. You can check your details via the [Login icon](#) at the top right of the AHPRA website. Email accounts need to be set to receive communications from AHPRA and the Board to avoid misdirection to an account junk box.

Conclusion

The National Board publishes a range of information about registration and the National Board's expectations of practitioners on its website at www.dentalboard.gov.au or www.ahpra.gov.au.

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

John Lockwood AM

Chair, Dental Board of Australia

30 May 2018