



## Communiqué

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### Forty seventh meeting of the Dental Board of Australia – 22 November 2013

The Dental Board of Australia (the National Board) is established under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory (National Law).

This communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations from the National Board's November 2013 meeting.

#### **Meeting with Dental Council of New South Wales**

The National Board's meeting was held in Sydney this month to coincide with a joint meeting on 21 November between the National Board and the Dental Council of New South Wales (the Dental Council). This was an opportunity for council and board members to discuss the common issues in regulating the dental profession under the National Scheme and the NSW co-regulatory model.

#### **Consultation on English language skills and Criminal history registration standards**

The 14 National Boards in the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme) have released a consultation paper on the review of the criminal history and English language registration standards.

You are invited to provide your comments on the consultation paper, including the questions in the paper, by 23 December 2013.

This stage of consultation is open to everyone. We encourage all interested practitioners, members of the community and other stakeholders to have input.

The consultation paper can be found on the Dental Board's website under the [News](#) tab.

#### **Audit**

AHPRA and the National Boards have developed a nationally consistent approach to auditing health practitioners' compliance with mandatory registration standards.

Audits are an important part of the way for dental practitioners to demonstrate to the community and to the Dental Board that they are meeting the mandatory registrations standards.

Under the National Law, AHPRA can request (on behalf of the Dental Board) you to provide evidence that you meet the standards, as declared in your previous annual statement.

Your annual statement is made when you apply to renew your registration. Practitioners are required to declare that these statements are 'true and correct'.

The annual statement also includes statements about whether:

- you have met the recency of practice requirements stated in the Board's registration standard
- you have met the Board's continuing professional development (CPD) requirements as set out in the Board's CPD registration standard during the previous registration period

- you have practised in accordance with the requirements of the Board's Professional indemnity insurance (PII) arrangements registration standard, and whether you commit to practise in accordance with that registration standard if your registration is renewed, and
- if there was any change in your criminal history during the previous registration period and whether you have any other criminal history that has not been disclosed to AHPRA.

### **How will I know if I am being audited?**

Audits of random samples of dental practitioners will occur periodically throughout the coming year.

If you are selected for audit, you will receive an audit notice in the mail from AHPRA. It includes a checklist that outlines what supporting documentation is required to demonstrate that you meet the standard(s) being audited.

### **What is being audited?**

Each time you apply to renew your registration, you make a declaration that you have (or have not) met the registration standards for your profession. The audit requires that you provide further information to support your declarations.

Your audit notice letter will identify which standard/standards are being audited. One or more of the following four mandatory registration standards may be audited:

- Criminal history
- English language skills
- Recency of practice, and
- Continuing professional development.

All of these standards are published on the Dental Board's website under the [Registration standard](#) tab.

### **Additional information**

An audit specific page has been published on our website under the [Registration](#) tab to keep you informed and provide you with the information and tools to help you if you are selected for audit. Additional information will be added progressively.

### **Health Profession Agreement**

The National Law requires AHPRA and the Dental Board to enter into a Health Profession Agreement (HPA). The HPA for 2013/2014 is now available on the National Board's website under the [About](#) tab.

The guiding principles of the National Law require the National Scheme to operate in a 'transparent, accountable, efficient, effective and fair way'; and for registration fees to be reasonable 'having regard to the efficient and effective operation of the scheme

Publishing the agreement demonstrates our commitment to transparency and accountability in implementing the National Scheme.

### **Newsletter**

The latest edition of our newsletter has been released. If you have an email registered with AHPRA then you will receive it directly. It is also published on the Board's website under the *News* tab.

### **Registration renewal**

Renewal of registration for all dental practitioners is due by **30 November 2013**. A high percentage of dental practitioners have already renewed their registration and the majority have done so online. AHPRA will email reminders to those registrants (for which they hold a current email address) who have yet to renew.

Under the National Law, all registered dental practitioners are responsible for renewing their registration on time each year and there is no option for AHPRA or the Dental Board to renew your registration after it has lapsed without a new application.

## Updating contact details

To check your contact details, go to the Your Account link above, use your unique contact number (User ID) and follow the prompts. Your User ID is not your registration number. If you do not have your User ID, complete an online enquiry form, selecting 'User ID' as the category of enquiry or by calling 1300 419 495.

Email accounts should be set to receive communications from AHPRA and the Board to avoid misdirection to an account junk box.

John Lockwood AM  
**Chair, Dental Board of Australia**  
29 November 2013