



Communiqué

Forty third meeting of the Dental Board of Australia – 19 July 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 issues from the Dental Board's July meeting.

Meeting in Darwin

The National Board held its July meeting in Darwin which provided the opportunity to meet with local registrants and stakeholders. Members of the National Board were also provided the opportunity to visit the Wurrumiyanga community on Bathurst Island and meet with staff of the Northern Territory Dental Clinic.

Review of accreditation arrangements

The Dental Board has agreed in principle that the Australian Dental Council will undertake the key accreditation functions of the Dental Board.

Dental practitioner audit

The National Board has agreed that auditing of dental registrants will commence in 2014. It has been agreed that in addition to audit of criminal history, dental practitioners will also be audited against the *Continuing professional development* and *Professional indemnity insurance* registration standards.

Scope of practice registration standard

The National Board remains committed to delivering well informed advice to the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council (Ministerial Council) on any proposed amendments to the *Scope of practice registration standard* to provide certainty to all divisions of dental practitioners on their scope of practice; and provide protection and certainty to the public in recognising the divisions of dental practitioners and their scope of practice.

Due to the response to the public consultation, the National Board has advised the Ministerial Council that it would prefer more time to carefully consider the responses and any possible impact of the proposed standard to ensure that dental practitioners are able to continue to work safely and with certainty and within their scope of practice.

The Scope of practice review committee, appointed by the National Board, will continue to provide advice to the National Board. The National Board will provide further updates after the submissions have been fully considered. The current *Scope of practice registration standard* remains in force.

Advertising

The National Board reminds all dental practitioners that they are responsible for the content of all advertising material associated with the provision of their goods/service, regardless of the type of media used to advertise. Practitioners should ensure that their advertising is compliant with the requirements of the National Law and the Advertising Guidelines.

National Board website

The National Board continues to encourage all dental practitioners to regularly check the website at www.dentalboard.gov.au for information and updates relating to the dental profession.

Updating contact details

The National Board encourages all dental practitioners to provide AHPRA with a current email contact address by updating their contact details through online services. This will enable AHPRA to contact dental practitioners about important registration information and the National Board to contact dental practitioners with important updates for the profession.

John Lockwood AM
Chair, Dental Board of Australia
30 July 2013