



Communiqué

August 2016 meeting of the Dental Board of Australia

The 77th meeting of the Dental Board of Australia (the Board) was held on Friday 26 August 2016 at the Melbourne Convention Centre.

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 within the organisation you work in.

National Registration and Accreditation Scheme 2016 combined meeting

The National Board meeting was held on 26 August to coincide with the annual National Registration and Accreditation Scheme combined meeting where entities within the scheme got together to discuss the focus for the next 12 months.

Representatives of the Australian Dental Council, the Dental Council of New South Wales and Dental Council of New Zealand attended the meeting.

National Boards and AHPRA host research summit

The 2016 Research Summit hosted by the 14 National Boards and the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) was attended by more than 220 delegates who gathered together to talk about the next frontier for developing our partnership's evidence-base to improve the way we regulate.

The theme of the summit was *'patient safety through risk-based regulation'*, and presenters discussed a range of topics. At the heart of the discussion was how to contribute to safer care for patients and health consumers. Also discussed was how data collection and evaluation can help find new and innovative ways to improve regulatory processes for health practitioners and the public.

The inaugural summit provided an opportunity for the exchange of expertise and ideas between regulatory staff, experts in safety and quality in healthcare, health practitioners and leading health and medical researchers.

Read more in the [media release](#) about the summit which was held on 25 August.

Dental Board of Australia fees set for 2016/17

[The Board has announced](#) the national registration fee for dental practitioners for 2016/17.

The fee will apply from 1 September 2016 and cover the registration period for most practitioners of 1 December 2016 to 30 November 2017. The fee will be:

- dentists and specialists: \$628
- dental prosthetists: \$558
- dental hygienists and therapists: \$310

The Board limited increasing the fee to indexation.

The fees for practitioners whose principal place of practice is NSW are^[1]:

- dentists and specialists: \$778
- dental prosthetists: \$702
- dental hygienists and therapists: \$382

In NSW, dental practitioners pay an annual registration fee set by the Board. The Dental Council of New South Wales is responsible for setting a component of this fee, to cover the cost of regulating the profession in NSW to protect public health and safety.

A fee schedule, including the fee arrangements for practitioners whose principal place of practice is NSW, is published on the [Board's website](#).

The Board will also shortly publish the Health Profession Agreement (HPA). The HPA provides information about the Board's financial operations, outlines the partnership between the Board and AHPRA, and the services AHPRA will provide to the Board to regulate the profession.

Review of Skilled Occupations List

The [Department of Education and Training](#) has published a revised Skilled Occupations List (SOL) – effective 1 July 2016.

Following this annual review dental hygienists, dental prosthetists and dental therapists have been removed from the SOL. Dentist and dental specialists were removed from the SOL in 2015.

The SOL identifies occupations that would benefit from skilled migration for the purpose of meeting the medium to long-term skill needs of the Australian economy.

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.

John Lockwood AM
Chair, Dental Board of Australia
9 September 2016

^[1] NSW is a [co-regulatory jurisdiction](#).