



## Communiqué

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### July 2017 meeting of the Dental Board of Australia

The 87<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Dental Board of Australia (the Board) was held on Friday 28 July 2017 at the National Office of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) in Melbourne.

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.

#### **Joint notifications workshop with AHPRA and ADA**

Senior leaders from the Board, AHPRA and the Australian Dental Association (ADA) met on 21 July 2017. The workshop focused on building a joint understanding of how notifications are managed in the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme). A joint communiqué of the meeting will be published on the Board's website in due course.

The Board was represented by Dr John Lockwood AM, Chair, Dr Murray Thomas, practitioner member and Mr Robin Brown, community member.

#### **Scheduled review of Scope of practice registration standard and Guidelines for scope of practice**

The Board has commenced its scheduled review of the [Scope of practice registration standard and Guidelines for scope of practice](#) which establishes the requirements for the scope of practice for all registered dental practitioners.

Section 38 of the National Law gives the Board the discretion to develop registration standards about the scope of practice of health practitioners registered in the profession. Pursuant to this section, the Board developed a revised standard which was approved by the Ministerial Council on 11 April 2014 with this standard and associated guideline effective from 30 June 2014.

As part of this review and in line with its obligations under the National Law, the Board will consult all stakeholders. Consultation is an important part of the Board's engagement with dental practitioners, members of the public and other stakeholders. The feedback provided is greatly valued, and informs the Board's development of its regulatory documents.

The Board will publicly consult on the registration standard and guideline in 2018. Public consultations are widely communicated in the Board's communiqués and website, and are open to everyone.

#### **Update on specialist registration pathways for overseas-trained dental specialists**

On 1 July 2016, the Board began the [assessment of all applications from overseas specialist qualifications for substantial equivalence](#) to Australian specialist programs.

As part of the Board's work program on specialist registration pathways for overseas trained dental specialists, the Board with AHPRA have engaged the Australian Dental Council (ADC) to develop an outcome-based assessment model for overseas-trained dental specialists applying for specialist registration in Australia.

This project includes the development of an implementation framework but does not include the implementation of the model. The Board will utilise its *Expert Reference Group – Specialists* to liaise with the ADC to help progress the work.

Given the associated work on specialist registration pathways for overseas-trained dental specialists the Board has decided to continue to put the review of the specialist registration standard on hold to accommodate any other requirements that may be needed to support future registration pathways.

### **New registration data released**

The Board has released its quarterly registration data. Read the latest report and other statistics on its [website](#).

### **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](http://www.dentalboard.gov.au) or [www.ahpra.gov.au](http://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**  
8 August 2017