



Communiqué

Twenty-fifth meeting of the Dental Board of Australia – 25 November 2011

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

This communiqué highlights the key issues from the Board's November meeting which was held via out of session papers followed by a teleconference on 25 November 2011.

Approved programs of study

The Board considered and agreed an internal policy, developed by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA), regarding the Management of Approved Programs of Study. If agreed by all of the National Boards, the policy will standardise the internal processes for the management and publication of approved programs of study by AHPRA and the National Boards.

Current Consultation - Definition of Practice

The Board is in the process of consultation on the Definition of Practice. A consultation forum on the Definition of Practice was held on 18 November 2011. Representatives from key stakeholder national organisations met with representatives of the Board and AHPRA to discuss the Definition of Practice consultation paper and related issues. The period for written submissions on the definition of "practice" has now closed

Meeting with National Advisory Council on Dental Health

Representatives of the Board met with the *National Advisory Council on Dental Health* on 23 November 2011 to discuss generally issues in relation to the dental workforce, the role of the Board in these issues, and which organisations are addressing the needs of dental workforce in Australia.

Meeting with Korean Institute of Dental Education and Evaluation

Representatives of the Board and the Australian Dental Council met with representatives from the Korean Institute of Dental Education and Evaluation on 18 November 2011 to discuss the accreditation and regulatory structure in Australia and discuss generally the implementation of a regulatory model in Korea.

Renewal of dental practitioner registration

The Board reminds all dental practitioners that registration renewal was required by **30 November 2011**, and we are now in the late period. Practitioners renewing in the late period are required to pay a late fee in addition to the usual renewal fee, however they are able to keep practising as long as their renewal has been received by AHPRA by 31 December 2011.

The fastest way to renew is online by following the 'Renew your registration' link on the Board's or AHPRA's website.

The registration of practitioners who have failed to submit their renewal by 31 December 2011 will lapse – and they **will not be able to practice**. As there is no option for AHPRA or the Board to renew registration after it has lapsed, lapsed practitioners need to lodge a new application for registration, and be approved, before they are able to practise.

John Lockwood
Chair, Dental Board of Australia
5 December 2011