Communiqué

49th meeting of the Dental Board of Australia – 21 February 2014

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 (the National Law).

This communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations from the National Board's February 2014 meeting. This meeting was attended by the Chairs of the State and Registration and Notification Committee and representatives from the Dental Council (NZ).

Dental practitioner audit

An audit page has been published on our website under the Registration tab to keep practitioners informed and provide information and tools to help practitioners who are selected for audit in 2014.

A log book template to assist practitioner's record continuing professional development will be added to the audit page shortly. This template is provided as a guide to practitioners to outline the type of information required.

Dental practitioner specialties

The National Board has released a communiqué on the project on dental specialties for dentists and has announced that the Dental Council (NZ) is an official partner with the National Board in this project.

The Expert Reference Group – Specialist (ERGS) of the National Board is overseeing the project. The ERGS is not intended to be a representative body, but rather a group of experts from Australia, New Zealand and the education sector, that the National Board and Dental Council (NZ) have agreed, to provide advice about specialist related matters and provide recommendations on the project.

Further updates and information will be provided at key stages of the project.

Revised guidelines, code and policy for practitioners

Revised guidelines and codes of conduct, and a new social media policy, containing important information for all registered health practitioners have been released on the National Board website and come into effect from mid-March 2014.

Registered health practitioners need to familiarize themselves with this guidance to ensure their practice meets National Board expectations from mid-March.

The documents released by the National Board are:

- revised *Guidelines for advertising regulated health services*
- revised *Guidelines for mandatory notifications*
- revised *Code of conduct*
- new *Social media policy*

Further information and FAQ can be found on the National Board's website.

Forum of international dental regulators

The first International Conference of Dental Regulators was held on 12 October 2013 in Edinburgh, Scotland. One outcome of the Conference was that a Working Group was established, comprising representatives from a number of jurisdictions, to explore the next steps for an ongoing body to continue and grow a forum of international dental regulators.

As proposed a second International Conference of Dental Regulators will be convened on Monday, September 8 2014, prior to the International Association of Medical Regulatory Authorities (IAMRA) Conference in London.

Consideration is also being given to the establishment of a new organisation called the International Society for Dental Regulators (ISDR).

Quarterly registration data released

The National Board has released its quarterly registration data.

The data includes information about types of registration held, principal place of practice, endorsements, registrant age and gender.

Read the latest report on our Statistics page

Updating contact details

To check that your contact details registered with AHPRA are up to date, go to the 'Your Account' link at the top right of the Board website, 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 phone 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
5 March 2014