

Professional indemnity insurance arrangements standard



Pharmacy
Board of
Australia

Summary

Registered pharmacists, including provisionally registered pharmacists, are required to maintain the approved level of individual professional indemnity insurance (PII) cover while practising and in accordance with the terms and conditions set under this standard.

Scope of application

This requirement applies to all registered pharmacists except those registered in the nonpractising category.

Requirements

1. A pharmacist must not commence practice until their PII is in place.
2. A pharmacist must be covered by a PII policy at any time he or she practises.
3. A policy must include an approved level of cover not less than \$20 million for any single claim (i.e. for each claim) that may be made against the pharmacist.
4. A policy must include suitable run-off cover once the pharmacist ceases to practise.
5. An applicant for renewal of general registration must declare that they have not practised as a pharmacist during the preceding year without all PII requirements being met.

(Note: A pharmacist who is covered by the professional indemnity insurance arrangements of an employer, and who practises as a pharmacist outside of the place(s) of employment covered by an employer's policy, will require separate PII cover to ensure cover in accordance with this standard.)

Definitions

Practice as a pharmacist means any role, whether remunerated or not, in which the individual uses their skills and knowledge as a pharmacist in their profession. For the purposes of this registration standard, practice is not restricted to the provision of direct clinical care. It also includes working in a direct nonclinical relationship with clients; working in management, administration, education, research, advisory, regulatory or policy development roles; and any other roles that impact on safe, effective delivery of services in the profession and/or use their professional skills.

Professional indemnity insurance arrangements means arrangements that secure for the practitioner insurance against civil liability incurred by, or loss arising from, a claim that is made as a result of a negligent act, error or omission in the conduct of the practitioner. This type of

insurance is available to practitioners and organisations across a range of industries, and covers the costs and expenses of defending a legal claim, as well as any damages payable. Some government organisations under policies of the owning government are self-insured for the same range of matters.

Run-off cover means insurance that protects a practitioner who has ceased a particular practice or business against claims that arise out of activities that occurred when he or she was conducting that practice or business. This type of cover may be included in a PII policy or may need to be purchased separately.

In this standard, '**registered pharmacist**' does not include a registered pharmacist holding nonpractising registration.

Review

This standard will commence on 1 July 2010. The Board will review this standard at least every three years.

