



Communiqué

26 November 2012

The Pharmacy Board of Australia (the Board) met on 16 November 2012 at the national office of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) in Melbourne.

Compounding Working Party

The Board's Compounding Working Party reported to the Board following a meeting held earlier in November. The Working Party has continued to make progress in revising the Board's current guideline on extemporaneous dispensing (compounding) to address complex compounding. Complex compounding is defined in the current edition of the Australian Pharmaceutical Formulary and Handbook Edition 22 (APF22), a reference text that must be readily accessible to pharmacists. The definition of complex compounding that will be included in the revised guideline will be aligned with the definition in the APF22.

The Working Party liaised with the Therapeutic Goods Administration regarding its activities in relation to the proposed regulation of manufacturing as it relates to pharmacists. The Board and the TGA agreed to maintain regular consultation on this issue and during the Working Party's ongoing work.

The Working Party also progressed the development of a *Professional Practice Profile for Complex Compounding*. It is proposed that the practice profile will inform the proposal of minimum training requirements for pharmacists engaging in complex compounding to be stipulated in the revised extemporaneous dispensing (compounding) guideline. The Board will consult on proposed changes to the guideline once finalised in 2013.

Annual Report

The annual report of the AHPRA and the National Boards has been published on the AHPRA website at www.ahpra.gov.au/Legislation-and-Publications/AHPRA-Publications.aspx.

The report details the second year of the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme), as well as extensive data on health practitioner registration and regulation, including notifications.

Registration renewals

Pharmacists across Australia are reminded that their registration is due for renewal on 30 November.

The quickest and easiest way to renew registration is online.

AHPRA has sent a series of emails to pharmacists, for whom an email address is known, reminding them to renew their registration. Pharmacists should check that their contact email details are up to date so they receive renewal reminders from AHPRA. These reminders are confirmation that online renewal is open. Hard copy letters have been sent to pharmacists who have already received email reminders but are yet to renew online.

Contact details can be updated by going online at www.ahpra.gov.au, following the 'online services' link and using your unique contact number (User ID). If you do not have your User ID, complete an online enquiry form or call 1300 419 495.

Under the National Law, practitioners who do not renew registration within one month of their registration expiry date must be removed from the National Register of Practitioners. Their registration will lapse and they will not be able to practise in Australia until a new application for registration is approved. There is no discretion for either the Board or AHPRA in this, so practitioners must renew on time.

The standards compliance audit is included as part of the renewal process this year. Pharmacists who have been randomly selected for audit will be advised of this near the completion of the renewal process or by mail if renewing by mail.

Board Evaluation

The Board is in the process of undertaking an evaluation by Board members of performance of the Board and also of the Chair. The results of this evaluation will be considered by the Board at its next meeting and also during its planning session to be held in January 2013.

Stephen Marty
Chair
26 November 2012