



Communiqué

23 September 2011

The Pharmacy Board of Australia met on 16 September 2011 in Sydney, during the 2011 National Registration and Accreditation Scheme Annual Conference. The conference provided the opportunity for the Board to meet with the other national boards and management staff of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA). The conference also provided an opportunity for members of the four new national boards which will join the national scheme on 1 July 2012 (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Board of Australia, Chinese Medicine Board of Australia, Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia and the Occupational Therapy Board of Australia) to meet with members of existing boards. This enabled discussion of aspects of the national scheme and the experience gained by the existing boards.

Continuing professional development (CPD)

The first auditable period for CPD will end on 30 September 2011. Pharmacists holding general registration need to declare that they have met the Board's CPD requirements when they renew their registration. The requirements are set out in the Board's *Continuing professional development registration standard*.

As outlined in the Board's *Guidelines on continuing professional development*, pharmacists must maintain records of CPD activities undertaken. For more details, please refer to the Board's CPD guidelines at www.pharmacyboard.gov.au/Codes-Guidelines.aspx.

A random sample audit of pharmacists who have renewed their registration will be undertaken early in 2012 and will review compliance with all of the mandatory registration standards. Pharmacists who did not achieve the minimum 20 CPD credits or were unable to provide satisfactory records of the CPD they claim to have undertaken will be required to provide further details as to why the requirements have not been met. These applications will then be assessed and determined by the Board's Registration and Examination Committee.

Renewal of registration: 30 November

Renewal of registration is due on 30 November 2011 and AHPRA will soon be sending renewal reminders to practitioners, initially through e-mail and then by mail. Pharmacists will also be requested to complete the workforce survey.

It's important that pharmacists ensure that their contact details, including e-mail address, are up-to-date. To update your details, please go to www.ahpra.gov.au/login.aspx and use your AHPRA user ID and pass code to log in.

Pharmacists should watch for AHPRA's renewal reminders as confirmation that they can renew online. If you do not have a user ID or have forgotten it, please go to www.ahpra.gov.au/About-AHPRA/Contact-Us.aspx to complete an online enquiry. Select user ID as the enquiry type to be advised of your user ID and password. The progress of registration renewal applications can be tracked online. Online renewal is strongly recommended to minimise any delays.

Stephen Marty
Chair
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