



Communiqué

3 September 2012

The Pharmacy Board of Australia met on 24 August 2012 in Adelaide, South Australia.

Meeting in South Australia

The Board conducted its August meeting in South Australia. This provided an opportunity for board members to meet with local pharmacists and stakeholders. The Chair provided attendees with an update on the Board's activities and the progress of the national registration and accreditation scheme. Attendees also had an opportunity to discuss issues affecting pharmacy practice with members of the Board.

The University of Queensland survey on Continuing Professional Development

The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) and National Boards have established an interim Data Access and Research Committee. The Committee considered a request for data access from the University of Queensland to conduct a survey on continuing professional development (CPD) for pharmacists. AHPRA and the National Boards are currently finalising procedures for managing future data access and research requests. A detailed policy with an application form etc will be available to assist.

The Board agreed that a suitable alternative to the initial request for data access in this case was to facilitate the conduct of the University of Queensland survey by publicising it to the profession in its communiqué. This decision was based on the potential to gain valuable information about pharmacists' understanding of the CPD requirements for registration set by the Board. The findings will be shared with the Board and pharmacy professional bodies. Pharmacists wishing to participate in the short (10 minute) survey can complete it online at www.surveymonkey.com/s/2VWW9D6.

Health Profession Agreement

Under the National Law, the National Board and AHPRA work in partnership to implement the National Scheme, each with specific roles, powers and responsibilities set down in the National Law.

The National Board and AHPRA have an agreement that both funds and formalises the relationship between the National Board and AHPRA. The National Board and AHPRA have now finalised the terms of the 2012/13 *Health profession agreement*.

In the interests of transparency and accountability, the National Board and AHPRA have, for the first time published the *Health profession agreement* that outlines the services that AHPRA will provide to the National Board in 2012/13.

The published agreement is available under the [About](#) tab of the National Board's website.

Agency Management Committee appointments

The Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council recently announced appointments to the AHPRA Agency Management Committee. All five current members have been re-appointed and three new members have been appointed. The appointment terms range from 12 months to three years, allowing for future staggered appointments to balance renewal with experience. All the appointments commence on 3 September 2012. Ministers have issued a Communiqué on the appointments and AHPRA has released a brief media statement, both of which are [published on the AHPRA website](#).

Quarterly registration data

The National Board and the other nine boards established in 2010 in the National Scheme have published their quarterly updates on registration data at the start of the month.

The pharmacy data includes information about types of registration held, principal place of practice, registrant age and gender, is published on the Board's website under the [News and Updates](#) tab.

Stephen Marty
Chair
3 September 2012