



## Communiqué

**20 March 2013**

The Pharmacy Board of Australia (the Board) met on 22 February 2013 at the national office of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) in Melbourne.

### **Approval of accreditation standards for pharmacy programs in Australia and New Zealand**

The Board previously directed the Australian Pharmacy Council (APC), accreditation authority for the pharmacy profession, to conduct a review of the *Accreditation standards for pharmacy programs in Australia and New Zealand*. The review was to build on existing accreditation standards and include a comparison against international standards.

APC completed the review in accordance with the [Procedures for the development of accreditation standards](#) which included undertaking wide-ranging consultation as required by s. 46(2) of the National Law, and ensuring that the standards meet the objectives and guiding principles of the National Law.

The Board is pleased to announce that it has approved the revised accreditation standards. These will be implemented 1 January 2014. APC will continue to accredit pharmacy programs against the existing [accreditation standards](#), which will remain published on its website until the revised standards are implemented.

### **Preceptor training review**

The Board previously advised that it decided to consult on the requirement for preceptor training that was scheduled to automatically begin on 1 July 2013, as stated in the current [Pharmacy supervised practice arrangements registration standard](#) (the standard).

The standard states that in order for a pharmacist to be approved by the Board as preceptor for the purpose of conducting a period of supervised practice, they must have attended, within the previous three years, preceptor training approved by the accreditation process approved by the Board.

The Board consulted major stakeholders through a face-to-face forum in February which was a valuable opportunity to consider a broad range of issues raised by attendees. The Board wishes to thank those who attended for their valuable contributions which will assist the Board's Policies, Codes and Guidelines Committee in its review of the standard. The Committee will formulate recommendations to the Board regarding a revised standard for wide-ranging consultation with the profession, other stakeholders and the public in mid 2013.

### **Panel decisions**

AHPRA has published a summary of [panel decisions](#) since July 2010 on its website. Where there is educational and clinical value, summaries have been provided which can be downloaded. Practitioners' names are not published, consistent with the requirements of the National Law.

Stephen Marty  
Chair  
20 March 2013