



Communiqué

15 April 2013

The Pharmacy Board of Australia (the Board) met on 21 March 2013 in Brisbane, Queensland.

Meeting in Queensland

The Board conducted its March meeting in Brisbane which also provided an opportunity for board members to meet with the Queensland Minister for Health and Assistant Minister for Health, 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 listen to an update from the Minister and discuss issues affecting pharmacy practice and matters of interest with members of the Board.

Review of registration standards, guidelines and codes

The first 10 National Boards to enter the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme) developed standards, guidelines and codes for its commencement on 1 July 2010. These standards, guidelines and codes were scheduled for review at least every three years.

The National Boards have commenced the public consultation process with the release of the following:

- revisions to the *Guidelines for advertising*
- revisions to the *Guidelines for mandatory notifications*,
- revisions to the *Code of conduct*, and
- a *Social media policy*.

The consultation process provides an opportunity for stakeholders to provide feedback. Information about the consultations is published on the Board's [website](#). The closing date for submissions is 30 May 2013.

Upcoming consultations

The first 10 National Boards to enter the National Scheme will also be consulting on registration standards and board specific guidelines due for review in 2013. The Pharmacy Board will provide further details in coming weeks regarding upcoming consultations.

In recent months, the Board has been working on revisions to guidelines on *Dispensary assistants/dispensary technicians and hospital pharmacy technicians* and *Extemporaneous dispensing (compounding)* which are currently published in the Board's *Guidelines for dispensing of medicines*. Both reviews have involved significant time and effort by the Board's Policies, Codes and Guidelines Committee and Compounding Working Party respectively. The Board will complete the preliminary work on the review of these two guidelines to coincide with the public consultation of all of its published guidelines which is scheduled to take place mid 2013.

Pharmacy Board of Australia website

Pharmacists are reminded that the Board's current registration standards, guidelines, codes, policies and frequently asked questions (FAQs) are published at www.pharmacyboard.gov.au. Pharmacists should also sign in to the 'Your Account' section of the website to update personal details.

Statistics

At 31 March 2013 the Register of Pharmacists included the following:

General	24,388
Provisional	1,905
Non-practising	917
Limited	16

Stephen Marty
Chair
15 April 2013