



## Communiqué

**14 May 2014**

The Pharmacy Board of Australia (the Board) met on 2 May 2014 in Darwin.

### Meetings in Darwin

The Board held a meeting with local pharmacists and stakeholders to coincide with its Board meeting in Darwin. This provided an opportunity for Board members to discuss issues regarding the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme and local practice.

#### *Royal Darwin Hospital*

Board members were invited to a presentation at the Royal Darwin Hospital on its electronic medication management system. This provided members with valuable insight into the benefits of the system and how hospital staff, including members of the pharmacy department are managing patient medication records effectively.

#### *National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre (NCCTRC)*

Board members were welcomed by Dr Nicholas Coatsworth, Director Disaster Preparedness and Response at the National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre (NCCTRC). The NCCTRC is focused on enhancing Australia's capacity to provide clinical and academic leadership in disaster and trauma care. Its location in northern Australia ensures that nationally it is prepared to respond to major onshore and offshore incidents in Australia and South East Asia.

In 2013, Dr Coatsworth led the second Australian Medical Assistance Team that responded to Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines, which included the provision of pharmacy services. Presentations were delivered by Dr Coatsworth and Mr Arrulan Naidoo (Pharmacist, NT Department of Health) on the recent delivery of services in the Philippines. Pharmacists who are interested in the services delivered by the NCCTRC can access further information on its [website](#).

### Re-appointment of Dr Rodney Wellard to the Board

The Board congratulates Dr Rodney Wellard on his re-appointment to the Board for a second term as a community member. The appointment was made by the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council and announced in the [recent communiqué](#).

### Quarterly registration data released

The Board publishes quarterly data profiling Australia's pharmacy workforce including a number of statistical breakdowns. Quarterly registration data at March 2014 for the pharmacy profession has been published on the Board's [website](#). At March 2014, there were a total of 28,188 registered pharmacists comprising the following number of registrants according to registration type:

- 25,306 – general registration
- 1,912 – provisional registration
- 17 – limited registration
- 953 – non-practising registration

## Pharmacy audit: Reminder

The Board reminds pharmacists that the audits of practitioners are continuing.

Audits are an important part of the way National Boards and AHPRA can better protect the public. They help to ensure that practitioners are meeting the mandatory registration standards and provide important assurance to the community and the Boards.

Pharmacists are reminded that the audits of practitioners are continuing, and that they have been uncoupled from the registration renewal cycle, meaning that pharmacists can receive an audit notice at any time of the year.

If you receive a notice letting you know you have been selected for audit, make sure to respond to it by the deadline and include all of the required supporting information.

The [audit page](#) on the website provides more information.

## Public consultations

### *Compounding of medicines*

Public consultation is now open on the *Guidelines for compounding of medicines* for pharmacists. The consultation paper and response form can be accessed from the Board's [Current Consultations page](#) on its website.

The guidelines will provide guidance to pharmacists who extemporaneously prepare medicines which includes 'simple compounding' and 'complex compounding' (as defined in the draft guidelines).

Consultation on the guidelines will close on 30 June 2014 and the community, stakeholders, pharmacists and other health practitioners are welcome to make a submission.

The Board is also conducting a separate consultation on a draft *Professional practice profile for pharmacists undertaking complex compounding* (practice profile). The practice profile is referenced in the compounding guidelines. The practice profile is a tool intended to assist pharmacists to understand the performance expected when undertaking complex compounding.

The consultation paper is also published on the Board's [website](#). Consultation on the practice profile will close on 30 June 2014.

### *Registration standards and related guidelines*

The Pharmacy Board of Australia is undertaking public consultation on a review of the following registration standards and guidelines:

- Registration standard: Professional indemnity insurance
- Registration standard: Continuing professional development
- Registration standard: Recency of practice
- Registration standard: Supervised practice arrangements
- Registration standard: Examinations for eligibility for general registration
- Guidelines on continuing professional development

The Board commenced its review of the above documents within three years of implementation of the current registration standards and related guidelines in 2010. The consultation process to date has included research and preliminary consultation with stakeholders prior to finalisation of the drafts for public consultation.

The public consultation paper and response form can be accessed on the [Current Consultations page](#) on the Board's website. Consultation will close on 30 June 2014 and the community, stakeholders, pharmacists and other health practitioners are welcome to make a submission.

Stephen Marty  
Chair  
14 May 2014