



## Communiqué

27 July 2015

The Pharmacy Board of Australia (the Board) met on 24 July 2015 in Melbourne.

### Compounding of medicines

Implementation of the Board's *Guidelines for compounding of medicines* (the guidelines) started on 28 April 2015 with the exception of the *Expiry of compounded parenteral medicines* section which the Board announced was postponed for a period of three months.

The Board previously advised it had received further feedback and information on its guidance about the expiry of compounded medicines that needed further investigation and review. Two stakeholder meetings were held in collaboration with the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA). At these meetings (in Melbourne and Sydney) stakeholders and pharmacists contributed to discussion about the Board's proposed guidance on the expiry of compounded sterile injectable medicines. The Board thanked all attendees for their valuable contributions.

The Board considered a report of the stakeholder meetings at its July meeting and agreed to the next steps for progressing work on finalisation of the *Expiry of compounded parenteral medicines* section of the guidelines.

### Further postponement

The *Expiry of compounded parenteral medicines* section of the guidelines is further postponed. The Board agreed to further develop the guidance in consultation with TGA and stakeholders during the next six months. Feedback received during the recent consultation meetings in Melbourne and Sydney will be taken into consideration and the Board will consult further with stakeholders, including government, as required.

At this stage, a specific date for implementation of the relevant guidance has not been agreed upon by the Board. This will depend on the progress that is achieved over the coming months while the Board reviews and addresses the feedback on the expiry of compounded sterile injectable medicines received to date.

The Board will provide periodic updates on the progress in its [communiqués](#) which are published on its website and provided to stakeholders. Once finalised, the Board will announce publication of the revised guidance and the date for when it will come into effect which will allow pharmacists time to become familiar with the content before implementation.

The Board previously published frequently asked questions (FAQ) to provide pharmacists and the public with additional information and clarification on a range of issues relating to the compounding of medicines.

The FAQ, published on the [FAQ and Fact Sheets](#) page of the Board's website, should be considered alongside the Board's *Guidelines on compounding of medicines* (the guidelines), any documents referred to in the guidelines and the *Background on the regulation of compounding* by pharmacists found on the [Codes and guidelines](#) page.

When compounding medicines, pharmacists are reminded to comply with the guidance on compounding that has been implemented by the Board and to meet their obligations outlined in relevant legislation and practice standards.

### Health profession agreement and fees

The health profession agreement (HPA) between the Board and AHPRA is being finalised and will be published on the Board's website shortly. It sets out the services that AHPRA will provide to support the

Board to regulate pharmacists. The HPA will provide information about the Board's financial operations and fees.

Stephen Marty  
Chair, Pharmacy Board of Australia  
27 July 2015

*[The Pharmacy Board of Australia](#) is the regulator of pharmacists in Australia and acts to protect the public by ensuring that suitably qualified and competent pharmacists are registered. The Board is responsible for developing registration standards, codes and guidelines for pharmacists and managing notifications (complaints)\* about pharmacists and pharmacy students. The Board does this through its powers under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory, and the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme, supported by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA). The Board's work in regulating Australia's pharmacists in the public interest is underpinned by [regulatory principles](#), which encourage a responsive, risk-based approach to regulation.*

*\*Except in NSW and QLD which have co-regulatory arrangements.*