

Communiqué

29 March 2016

The Pharmacy Board of Australia (the Board) meets each month to consider and decide on any matters related to its regulatory function under the National Law¹ and within the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme).

This communiqué aims to inform stakeholders of the work of the Board and matters regarding the National Scheme. Please forward it on to colleagues and employees who may be interested in its content.

March Board meeting

The Board met in Melbourne on 16 March 2016 where it received reports from and progressed matters raised through its Registration and Examinations Committee, Finance Risk and Governance Committee, Notifications Committee and Policies Codes and Guidelines Committee. It also addressed a number of Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) and National Scheme-related matters.

The Board confirmed that its April 2016 meeting would be held in Hobart as part of its cycle of twice-yearly meetings in jurisdictions other than Melbourne.

APP2016

The Board participated in the Australian Pharmacy Professional Conference and Trade Exhibition 2016 (APP2016) on 18-20 March 2016. The Board Chair, other Board members and the Board's Executive Officer spoke with attendees at the Pharmacy Board of Australia stand.

Pharmacists, interns and students raised a variety of queries about pharmacists' obligations and the Board's role in the National Scheme, which were clarified by the Board's representatives.

CPD requirements for pharmacists

A common topic of discussion at the Board's APP2016 stand was the Board's recent introduction of a requirement that all pharmacists plan their continuing professional development (CPD). This requirement is outlined in the revised CPD standard and guidelines published on the Board's [website](#) which came into effect on 1 December 2015. Attendees were reminded of the need to meet the new CPD requirements by the next registration renewal period on 30 November 2016.

Many attendees were pleased to learn that a blank template CPD plan/record is available on the Board's [website](#) which pharmacists can use. Another resource is a sample populated CPD plan/record contained in the Board's [FAQ on CPD](#) which can be used as an example.

Attendees were reminded that the pharmacy professional organisations also offer support and tools to assist pharmacists in meeting the Board's CPD requirements, and that these tools can be used in combination with, or in place of, the Board's published tools.

¹ The Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory (the National Law)

Pharmacy Board newsletter

Last week an electronic newsletter providing an update on a range of Board activities and practice related issues was e-mailed to all registered pharmacists. A copy of the newsletter is available on the Board's [website](#).

Pharmacists who have not provided an email address can do so through the [online services for practitioners](#).

Further consultation on guidance: Expiry of compounded parenteral medicines

Consultation on the *Expiry of compounded parenteral medicines* section of the Board's *Guidelines on compounding of medicines* (the guidelines) is about to close.

The consultation paper and response form are available from the Board's [Current Consultations page](#) on its website. Given the Board's previous consultation on the complete compounding guidelines, other sections of the guidelines are not part of this public consultation.

The Board invites submissions from the community, stakeholders, pharmacists and other health practitioners which must be sent no later than 30 March 2016.

Further information

The Board publishes a range of information for pharmacists on its website at www.pharmacyboard.gov.au. For more information about registration, notifications or other matters relevant to the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme also refer to information published on www.ahpra.gov.au or send an [online enquiry form](#) or contact AHPRA on 1300 419 495.

William Kelly
Chair, Pharmacy Board of Australia
29 March 2016

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.*