

Communiqué

2 September 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.

August Board meeting

During its meeting on 26 August 2016, the Board received reports from and progressed matters raised through its committees. It also addressed a number of Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) and National Scheme-related matters.

The Board meeting was held to coincide with the annual National Registration and Accreditation Scheme combined meeting where entities within the scheme got together to discuss the focus for the next 12 months.

National Boards and AHPRA host research summit

The 2016 Research Summit hosted by the 14 National Boards and AHPRA was attended by more than 220 delegates who gathered together to talk about the next frontier for developing our partnership's evidence-base to improve the way we regulate.

The theme of the summit was 'patient safety through risk-based regulation', and presenters discussed a range of topics. At the heart of the discussion was how to contribute to safer care for patients and health consumers. Also discussed was how data collection and evaluation can help find new and innovative ways to improve regulatory processes for health practitioners and the public.

The inaugural summit provided an opportunity for the exchange of expertise and ideas between regulatory staff, experts in safety and quality in healthcare, health practitioners and leading health and medical researchers.

Read more in the [media release](#) about the summit which was held on 25 August.

Review of guidance on the expiry of compounded parenteral medicines

The Board is currently having further discussion with the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) about draft revisions to the currently postponed section *Expiry of compounded parenteral medicines* of the Board's *Guidelines on compounding of medicines* (compounding guidelines). Feedback received through the February-March 2016 public consultation has enabled the Board to identify several outstanding issues requiring further discussion with the TGA, after which submissions will be published on the Board's website unless an individual or organisation has requested otherwise.

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

Further updates will be provided by the Board when available, including when revised guidance will be finalised and take effect. The Board also reminds pharmacists of their obligation to comply with relevant legislation, practice standards and guidelines, including the published compounding guidelines, when compounding medicines.

Board webinar: The continuing professional development (CPD) journey

The Board received a positive response to its invitation to register for its webinar on continuing professional development (CPD) to be held on 15 September 2016. A recording of the webinar will be published on the Board's website about two weeks after the broadcast, along with a range of answers to frequently asked questions. Pharmacists who were unable to secure a place during the live broadcast and other interested pharmacists are encouraged to view the recording once it becomes available.

This webinar will cover:

- The concept of lifelong learning - Why it is important to plan your CPD
- The CPD cycle - Plan, Do, Record, Reflect, Incorporate into Practice
- Different ways to learn
- How reflective practice can accelerate your professional development
- The Board's new CPD requirements
- Available CPD resources and tools.

The Board is also aware of several other education activities and other support tools offered by the pharmacy professional associations which may assist pharmacists in meeting the Board's CPD requirements.

The annual CPD recording period concludes on 30 September 2016. Pharmacists must meet the annual CPD requirements by this date to make a declaration of compliance with the *Registration standard: Continuing professional development* at renewal of registration which is due by 30 November 2016. Pharmacists are required to plan and complete CPD activities relevant to their scope of practice that have an aggregate value of 40 or more CPD credits for the 12 month period ending 30 September.

The revised CPD standard came into effect on 1 December 2015. The Board's revised *Guidelines on continuing professional development*, which also came into effect on 1 December 2015, guide pharmacists on how to meet the requirements of the standard.

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
2 September 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.*