



## Communiqué

### Twenty first Meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia 28 July 2011

The twenty first meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia was held on 28 July 2011 in Melbourne. The Board is established under the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act* (National Law) as in force in each state and territory.

This communiqué highlights key issues from the Board's last meeting. At each meeting, the Board considers a wide range of issues, many of which are routine and are not included in this communiqué.

#### Annual fees

In setting its budget for the 2011/12 financial year, the Board has reviewed all registration fees in consultation with its finance and management committee and AHPRA. The Board has accepted advice to increase the fees no greater than CPI. At CPI of 3.3%, this means the annual fee for renewal will be \$496 from the 30 November 2011 renewal period (or \$493 for practitioners whose principal place of practice is NSW).

In consultation with the other nine Boards, the Osteopathy Board of Australia has approved a fee for late renewal of registration. The late fee (of \$124 or 25% of the registration renewal fee) will be applied in addition to the registration renewal fee for applications received up to one month after the registration expiry date. The Board has also approved a new Fast Track Application Fee of \$248, to be applied to all new applications for registration from practitioners who do not renew their registration on time, who wish to practise and who apply within one month of the end of the late renewal period. The fast track application was introduced this year to assist practitioners whose registration has lapsed but who wish to remain in practice.

#### Lapsed registration

Osteopath practitioners whose registration has lapsed in certain jurisdictions (mainly in NSW, TAS and WA) have been sent a number of reminders to their registered address. However, the responsibility to renew registration rests with the individual practitioner. Practitioners who do not apply to renew within one calendar month of their registration expiry date must, under the National Law, make a new application. This fast-track process is currently open for practitioners one month after the end of the late period, which for some practitioners in some jurisdictions finished on 31 July 2011.

The registration renewal dates for osteopath practitioners are being aligned during 2011 so by 2012, all registrants will be due to renew their registration by 30 November. This year, most osteopaths in Australia will be due to renew their registration by 30 November 2011. AHPRA has planned an intensive campaign to support the renewals process and will send practitioners a series of email and hard copy reminders.

The Board encourages all osteopaths who have not yet provided their email address to AHPRA to do so by using the practitioner log-in on the home page of the [Board website](#) and updating their contact details.

All registered osteopaths can check their registration expiry date on the online [Register](#).

#### Osteopathy Board of Australia website

The Board will soon be updating its website to make it easier to navigate and find important information. The Board's website will feature clearer menus and intuitive architecture.

The Board continues to publish important information on its website. Osteopaths are encouraged to access the website regularly to keep up to date with guidelines, policies, frequently asked questions (FAQs), fact sheets and registration standards.

### **Public Consultations**

The Board is currently consulting on the following issues:

- *Draft Registration Standards for Limited Registration in the Public Interest and Limited Registration for Post-Graduate Training and Supervised Practice*
- *Draft Revised Continuing Professional Development Guidelines, and*
- *Draft Guidelines for Infection Control.*

The Board encourages anyone interested in these issues to access the draft guidelines and standards from the website at [www.osteopathyboard.gov.au](http://www.osteopathyboard.gov.au) and provide feedback. The consultations will be open until 26 August 2011.

### **Registrant contact details**

Osteopaths are encouraged to provide their email address to AHPRA. This will enable the Board to send important information for the profession, and AHPRA to contact practitioners about important registration or renewal information.

Dr Robert Fendall  
Chair  
Osteopathy Board of Australia  
4 August 2011