



Communiqué

26 June 2014 meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia

The 58th meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia (the Board) was held on 26 June 2014 in Melbourne. This communiqué outlines the issues discussed and decisions made by the Board at its meeting and other points of interest. The Board publishes this communiqué on its website and emails it to a broad range of stakeholders.

Public consultation on CPD guidelines

The Board will soon be releasing a review of its draft revised *Continuing professional development (CPD) guidelines* for [public consultation](#).

Please provide written submissions as a Word document (not PDF) by email, marked 'Consultation – CPD Guidelines' to osteoboardconsultation@ahpra.gov.au by close of business 29 August 2014.

The Board will publish submissions received on its website under [Past consultations](#) to encourage discussion and inform the community and stakeholders, unless requested otherwise, or there are circumstances under which submissions may not be published.

Earlier in the year the *CPD guidelines* were released for targeted, preliminary consultation. The Board appreciates the feedback it received during the preliminary consultation and has taken some extra time incorporating a large proportion of this feedback into the public consultation draft that will be released this month.

Panel member recruitment

The Board approved the appointment of 12 osteopathy practitioners from five states and territories on a list of approved persons (LAP) for appointment to panels. These positions were advertised in February and March 2014 and the Board is very pleased with the response, as there is now a much wider geographical spread of appointees. Letters will be sent to successful applicants this month.

The Board also approved the appointment of three medical practitioners to the Board's LAP, and the appointments of 104 current community panel members to the cross-profession LAP.

The Board convenes health panels and performance and professional standards panels when required to hold hearings into specific health, performance or conduct matters for individual registered health professionals; and chooses panel members from a LAP.

Queensland – new arrangements for handling notifications from 1 July 2014

From **1 July 2014** a new law comes in to effect in Queensland, the *Health Ombudsman Act 2013*.

From this date, all complaints about Queensland health practitioners will be received by the Office of the Health Ombudsman (OHO) who will either manage the matters or refer them to the relevant National Board to manage.

Complaints that were made to AHPRA or National Boards before 1 July 2014 will generally continue to be managed by AHPRA on behalf of National Boards. However, under the new law the Office of the Health Ombudsman can request that a matter be referred to them to be managed. If this were to happen, AHPRA will inform both the notifier and the practitioner who is the subject of the notification.

For information about the Office of the Health Ombudsman please go to www.oho.qld.gov.au or call 133 646 (133 OHO).

Data access and research policy

AHPRA and National Boards regularly receive requests for access to data about registered practitioners. The *Data access and research policy* was developed by AHPRA and National Boards to maximise benefits that data access can bring, while managing risks to the privacy of practitioners whose information we have collected and hold for the purposes of the National Law and other statutory obligations. The policy is available on the AHPRA [website](#).

Keeping in touch with the Board

The Board publishes a range of information about registration and the Board's expectations of practitioners on its website at www.osteopathyboard.gov.au. Osteopaths are encouraged to refer to the site for news and updates on policy and guidelines affecting their profession.

Dr Robert Fendall (Osteopath)

Chair

1 July 2014