



Communiqué

28 February 2013 meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia

The 42nd meeting of the Osteopathy Board of Australia (the Board) was held on 28 February 2013 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.

Board publication of three new guidelines

The Board is preparing to publish the following guidelines:

- *Guidelines for supervision of osteopaths*
- *Sexual and professional boundaries: guidelines for osteopaths, and*
- *Informed consent: guidelines for osteopaths.*

All Board guidelines are found at www.osteopathyboard.gov.au/Codes-Guidelines.aspx and osteopaths are encouraged to keep up to date by regularly reading the Board's publications.

Stakeholder engagement

The Chairs and Executive Officers of the Board and the Australian and New Zealand Osteopathic Council met in Sydney on 7 February 2013. The Chair also met with the President of the Osteopathy Council of NSW. Under NSW law, the Council handles all matters under Part 8 of the National Law (health, conduct and performance matters) in relation to practitioners in NSW.

On 8 February 2013, the Forum of National Board Chairs met the Minister for Health, Tanya Plibersek MP, and the Australian Health Ministers Advisory Committee Executive.

Consultations

AHPRA is seeking feedback on its proposed [National Registration and Accreditation Scheme data access and research policy](#). The policy establishes a consistent approach for data access and research requests across AHPRA and the National Boards. This consultation closes on 5 April 2013.

With other National Boards, the Board is moving towards public consultation on the *Guidelines for advertising*, *Guidelines for mandatory reporting*, and *Social media policy*. These documents are mostly common across most National Boards and consultation will be coordinated across those National Boards.

The Board was pleased with the response to its recent consultations on its drafts of the *Guidelines for informed consent*, *Guidelines for supervision of osteopaths*, *Sexual and professional boundaries guidelines*. The Board publishes submissions on closed consultations at: www.osteopathyboard.gov.au/News/Past-Consultations.aspx.

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

13 March 2013