



National Registration

How does it work and what will it mean for me?

Information Sessions February and March 2012

Outline

1. Overview of the National Registration & Accreditation Scheme (The National Scheme)
2. National registration for medical radiation practitioners
3. Standards, Codes and Guidelines
4. Student registration
5. What do I need to do? How to Register
6. Other matters
7. Questions

National Registration & Accreditation Scheme

- 1st July 2010 Australia introduced world's first National Registration and Accreditation Scheme.
- Eight states and territories under one national scheme
- 85 plus health professional boards devolved to 10.
- 529,000 health practitioners listed on the online National Registers.
- 66 Acts of Parliament devolved to one nationally consistent law – the National Law, as in force in each state and territory.
- Health Practitioners Regulation National Law Act (National Law)

10 Nationally Registered Professions joined in July 2011

- Chiropractic Board
- Dental Board
- Medical Board
- Nursing and Midwifery Board
- Optometry Board
- Osteopathy Board
- Pharmacy Board
- Physiotherapy Board
- Podiatry Board
- Psychology Board

Four, partially regulated professions will join on 1 July 2012

- Chinese Medicine Board
- Medical Radiation Practice Board
- Occupational Therapy Board
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Board

AHPRA facts

- July 1 2011 marked the 1st anniversary of the National Scheme
- There are almost 100,000 students on the student register introduced in April 2011
- The AHPRA website at www.ahpra.gov.au hosted nearly six million visits in first year

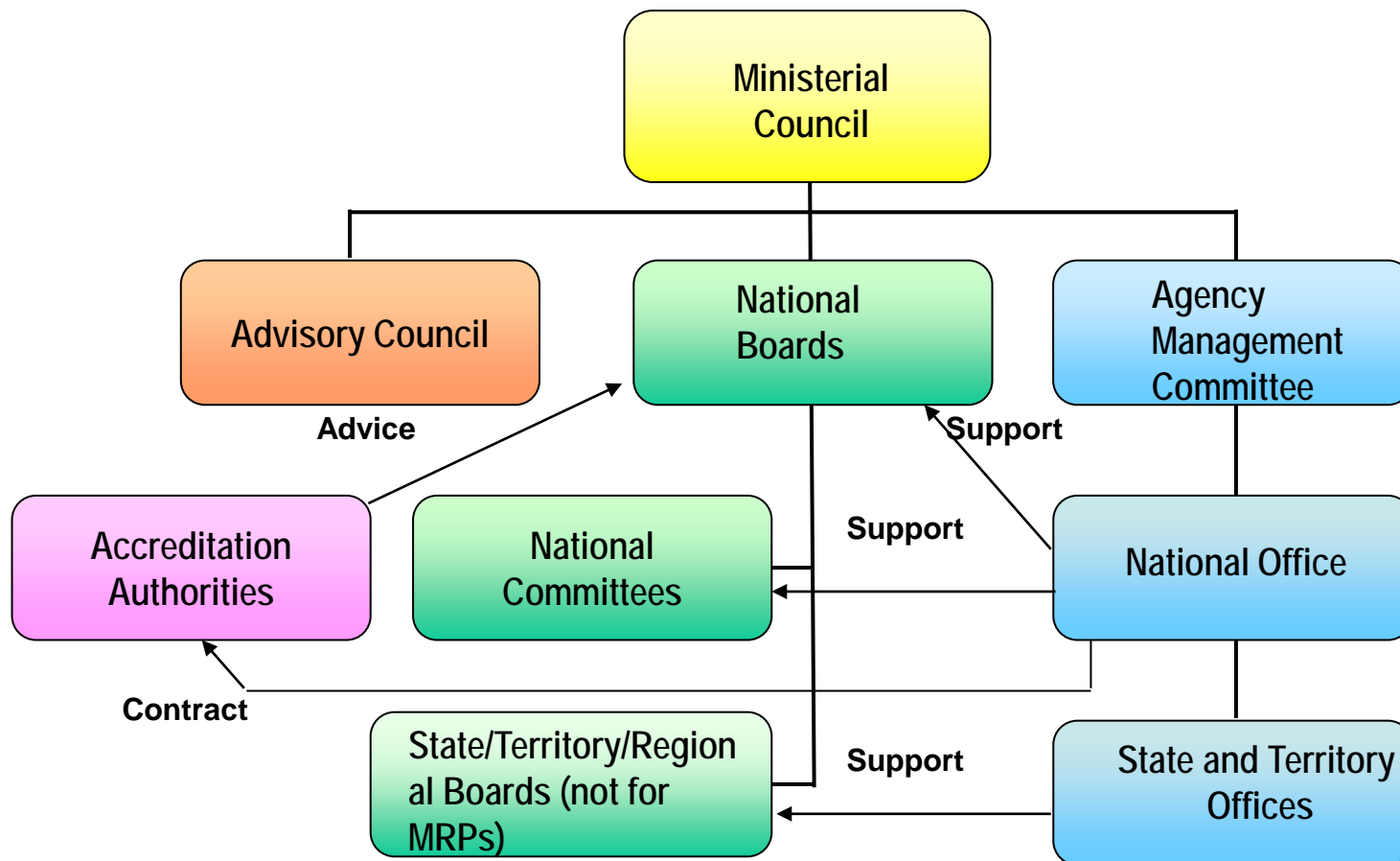
Benefits of National Registration

- Promotes mobility: - Register once, practice nationally.
- Consistency: - Through uniform national standards.
- Efficiency: - Less red tape, standard systems.
- Collaboration: - Inter-professional learning and support.
- Transparency: - On-line registers, searchable databases for conditions, notifications, public recognition.
- Consultation: - Joint consultations and submissions.

Registration components include

- Independent accreditation of national and overseas courses
- Criminal history and identity checks
- Mandatory continuing professional development
- Mandatory professional indemnity insurance
- Notifications and complaints management
- National registration fee for each profession
- Student registration
- Collaboration, clear roles and accountabilities and a joint commitment to best practice

NRAS Governance



Medical Radiation Practice Registration

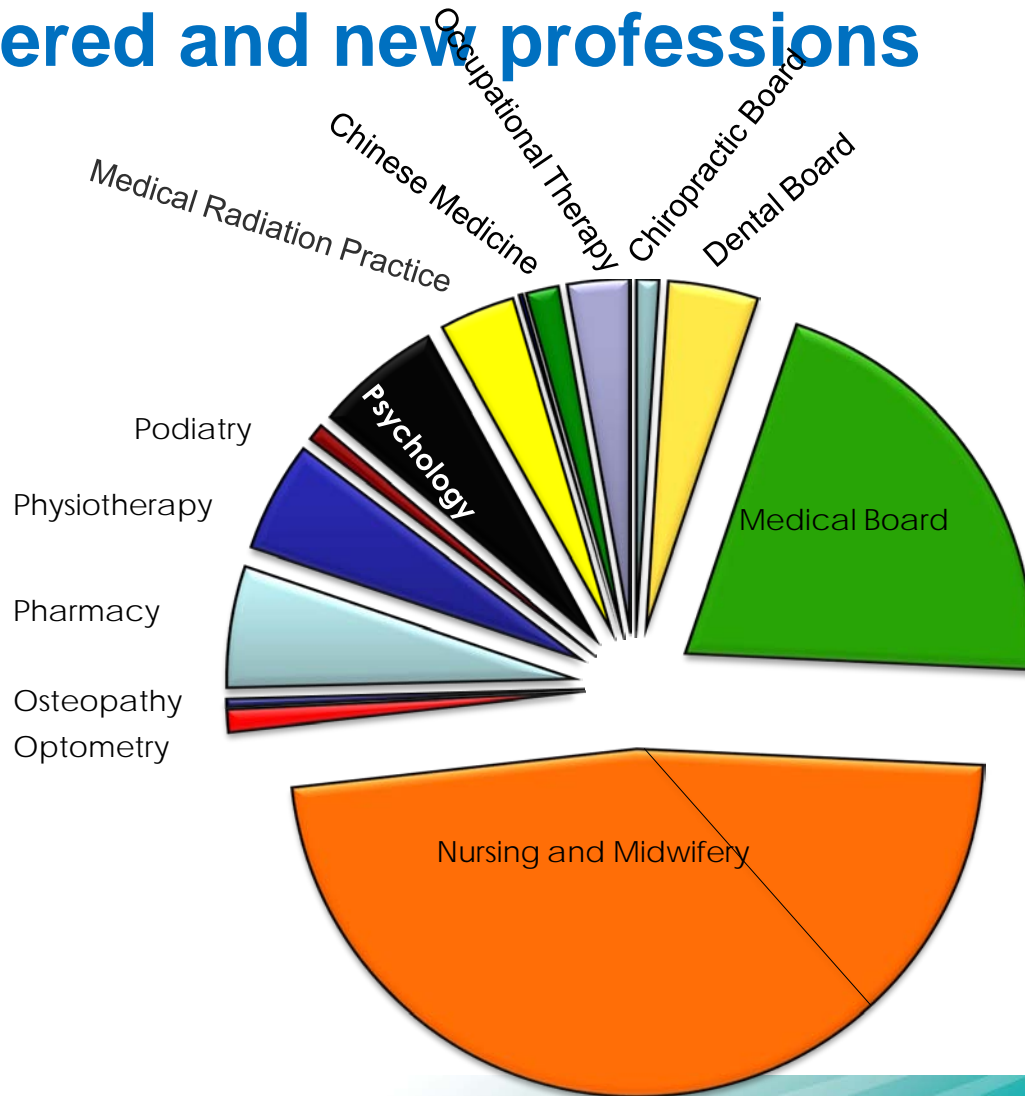
Second stage professions

Four partially regulated professions will be included from 1st July 2012:

- Medical Radiation Practice
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice
- Chinese Medicine
- Occupational Therapy

From 1 July 2012, if you are a diagnostic radiographer, radiation therapist or nuclear medicine technologist you must be registered with the national board to work.

Registered and new professions



Medical Radiation practitioners

State numbers as at December 2011

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	Vic	WA	<u>Total</u>
MRPs Reg'ed	244		134	2,892		319	3,851	1,306	8,746
Not Reg		4000	100		2,100				6,200
								Total	14,946

Practitioners in NSW, SA (and some in NT) will need to be registered for the first time.



Medical Radiation Practice
Board of Australia

[Home](#)
[About Us](#)
[Registration](#)
[Registration Standards](#)
[Codes and Guidelines](#)
[Accreditation](#)
[News](#)

Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia

Working in partnership with [AHPRA](#) to protect the public and guide the profession.

Updates:

Apply
for National Registration

Updates
Information sessions in February

Top Content

- Registers of Practitioners**
 Need to find the registration status and details of a health practitioner?
- Make a Notification**
 Concerned about the health, conduct, or performance of a health practitioner? Interested in notification outcomes?
- Consultations**
 Help to shape Registration Standards, Codes and Guidelines, and policies.

About Us

- About the Board**
Learn about the Board and its functions. Receive email updates from the Board.
- Communiques**
Important decisions made by the Board.
- NRAS 2012**
The latest developments of the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme.

[More About Us »](#)

Latest News

- Registration applications now open for Medical Radiation Practitioners:
21/02/2012 | [Read Article](#)
- The Medical Radiation Practice Board releases its information session schedule regarding national registration and more.
27/01/2012 | [Read Article](#)
- Board Releases New Consultation Paper.
24/01/2012 | [Read Article](#)
- Approved registration standards for the four new 2012 professions were released today.
16/01/2012 | [Read Article](#)

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Contact Us

Enquiries
Telephone AHPRA
Office Locations

Services for Practitioners

Register to Practise
Download Registration Certificate
Overseas Practitioners

Students and Graduates

Graduate Applications
Student Registration
Approved Study Programs

Services for Employers

Multiple Registration Check
Convert Legacy Registration Numbers
Update Contact Details

Members of the Board



Neil Hicks



Mark Marcenko



Christopher Hicks



Chris Pilkington



Kar Giam



Liz Benson



Susan Baldwin



Tracy Vitucci



Robyn Hopcroft



Marcia Fleet



Myrtle Green



Rosie Yeo

The Board includes diagnostic, nuclear medicine, radiation therapy and community representatives

Board functions

From July 2011:

- Develop Mandatory and Registration Standards and Guidelines related to the Medical Radiation Profession.
- Establish the application forms and processes for Board functions.

Additional functions from July 2012:

- Register Medical Radiation Practitioners and students.
- Deal with notifications, complaints, investigations and disciplinary hearings.
- Accredite National and Overseas MRP courses through the independent Accreditation Authority.
- Assess Overseas trained practitioners who wish to practice in Australia, through the Accreditation Authority.

Committees of the Board

- Registration Review Committee
- Accreditation, Policy, Research & Standards Committee
- Overseas Applications Committee (interim)
- Notification and Complaints Committee
- Finance Committee
- Communication Strategy Committee
- Supervised Practice Committee

Consultation and Communication

- Monthly Board Communiqués.
- Public calls for consultation on Standards and Guidelines.
- MRPBA web site www.medicalradiationpracticeboard.gov.au
- Email distribution list mrpbaupdate@ahpra.gov.au
- State registration board web sites and newsletters.
- NSW & SA Forums.
- MRPB Flyer.
- Publicity in the Professional Journals i.e. AIR and ANZSNM.
- Presentations at professional meetings and conferences.

Who needs to be registered

Anyone using one of the Protected titles for Medical Radiation Practice will need to be registered with the Board;

- medical radiation practitioner
- diagnostic radiographer
- medical imaging technologist
- radiographer
- nuclear medicine scientist
- nuclear medicine technologist
- radiation therapist

Definition of Practice

The current definition of practice adopted by most National Boards is as follows:

Practice means any role, whether remunerated or not, in which the individual uses their skills and knowledge as a health practitioner in their profession. For the purposes of this registration standard, practice is not restricted to the provision of direct clinical care. It also includes using professional knowledge in a direct non-clinical relationship with clients, working in management, administration, education, research, advisory, regulatory or policy development roles, and any other roles that impact on safe, effective delivery of services in the profession.

Standards, Codes and Guidelines

What do I need, to be registered?

- Hold a qualification, prescribed or equivalent
- Completed any required Supervised Practice
- Be a fit and proper person and not disqualified
- Not be convicted of an offence which would render me unfit to practice
- Have sufficient physical & mental capacity and skill to practice
- Have sufficient knowledge and practical skills in the area of MRP to perform the duties of a MRP
- Satisfy the Five Mandatory Standards (Criminal History & Identity check, CPD, PI Insurance, English Language Skills & Recency of Practice)

Qualifications for general registration, s53

An individual is qualified if they:

- hold an approved qualification
- hold a substantially equivalent qualification, or
- hold a relevant qualification and has successfully completed an examination or assessment required by the Board
- Or the individual holds a qualification recognized by a previous registration board, and was previously registered with that Board (Australian Practitioners Only)

Grandparenting provisions of the Act, s303

- The Grandparenting provisions are broad.
- The intent is to ensure that practitioners who are legitimately practising the profession (particularly in those jurisdictions that did not require registration) are **not unjustly disadvantaged** because they are not automatically transitioned to the national registration scheme as a state or territory registrant or because they do not hold an approved qualification.

Grandparenting provisions of the Act

Under s303 - practitioners can apply for registration under the Grandparenting provisions based on;

- a) qualifications the Board considers **adequate; or**
- b) qualification with further study, training or supervised practice, required by the Board; **or**
- c) adequate experience i.e. **worked 5 years in the last 10 years**

Importantly, the Grandparenting provisions apply for applications received until **1 July 2015.**

The Board has developed a document titled **Assistance for Grandparenting Applications**, which is available on the Board's website.

Professional Indemnity Insurance

- Practicing Medical Radiation Practitioners require a minimum coverage of \$10 million for a single claim and unlimited run off cover.
- Practitioners must not work in Australia unless they have appropriate PII in place.
- PI insurance arrangements through employers and third party organisations i.e. membership of professional bodies or unions is permitted.
- Must ensure that their PII arrangements are commensurate with the work they do i.e. (“that for which a practitioner is qualified and competent to undertake”). May relate to advanced practice i.e. reporting.

Criminal history check

- Board is required to check an applicant's criminal history before deciding an application for registration (section 79).
- All applicants for registration will undergo a criminal history check. The cost is included in the application fees.
- Where an applicant has a recorded criminal history the National Law requires the Board to act only as far as necessary to protect the public.
 - Convictions
 - Findings of guilt
 - Pending charges
 - Finding of guilt, even with no conviction recorded
 - Spent convictions also apply to the Criminal History disclosure requirements

Continuing Professional Development

- Practitioners must:
 - complete a minimum of **60 hours** of CPD activities over a three year cycle, with a minimum of 10 hours in any one year; **or**
 - comply with the requirements of a CPD program approved by the Medical Radiation Practice Board, i.e. a program run by professional organisations. (Approval pending for AIR / ANZSNM).
 - keep records for 4 years of CPD and produce evidence if requested by Board. Random audits will be conducted.
- CPD activity:
 - a greater proportion must be **substantive** CPD activity.
 - a lesser proportion may be **general** CPD activity.

English Language Skills

- English Language Skills Registration Standard is consistent with the approach taken by the other Health Professions.
- It requires international applicants, or those who have not undertaken their secondary and tertiary education in Australia or a country listed below, to undertake an IELTS or OET English assessment.
- Secondary and Tertiary education in one of the following countries - Canada, New Zealand, Republic of Ireland, South Africa, United Kingdom, United States of America.

English Language Skills

- Applicants must undertake the academic version of the IELTS and must score 7 or more in each of the four categories in a single sitting, within 2 years of applying.
- OET pass with grades A or B in each of the four categories (Listening, reading, writing & speaking).
- www.ielts.org
- www.occupationalenglishtest.org

Recency of Practice

- Does NOT apply to those who have practiced within 3 years of applying.
- If you have not practiced for between 3 and 5 years, you will be required to submit a Return to Practice Plan.
- If you haven't worked for more than 5 years, you will generally be required to undergo an assessment of skills and knowledge.
- The Board may impose conditions such as a requirement for further study or a period of supervised practice.
- **Note:** there is no specific number of practice hours required, however, it is the responsibility of all practitioners to ensure that they have the appropriate skills and knowledge to undertake practice.

Supervised Practice

Transition period, July 2012 to end of 2012

- The MRPB has agreed in conjunction with the Australian Institute of Radiography and the Australian and New Zealand Society of Nuclear Medicine, to continue the current NPDP and PDY Supervised Practice programs through to the end of 2012.
- This is to provide stability for the current PDY / NPDP enrolments and to enable the MRPB time to review and implement any changes required for 2013.
- Registrants in Qld operate under Qld law, the National Board is working with the MRTBQ toward the transition of Qld probationary practitioners into the National Scheme.

Code of Conduct & Advertising Guidelines

- **Code of Conduct** - is a document consistent across all Boards that sets out the standard of conduct required of practitioners.
- **Advertising Guidelines** - this guides those practitioners providing and advertising health services.

Mandatory Notifications

- Mandatory Notifications - provides guidance when a practitioner, employer or education provider must notify AHPRA.
- The requirements focus on serious instances of sub-standard practice or conduct by practitioners where the behaviours puts the public at risk of harm.

Impairment

- Impairment means a physical or mental impairment, disability, condition, or disorder (including substance abuse or dependence) that detrimentally affects or is likely to detrimentally affect your capacity to practise the profession.
- The National Law requires you to declare any impairments at the time of application. If you have an impairment, you will need to provide details of the impairment and how it is managed.

Mandatory reports

Table 24: Grounds for mandatory notifications

Grounds for notification	Number	Percent
Sexual misconduct	29	6.8%
Drug or alcohol	18	4.2%
Impairment	128	29.9%
Departure from standards	253	59.1%
Total	428	100.0%

What appears on the register?

- Name, Sex, Qualifications.
- Languages spoken (in addition to English).
- Principle place of Practice - City/Suburb/Town, State, Postcode, Country.
- Profession, Registration Type (i.e. General), Status.
- Endorsements, Conditions, undertakings, Notations or reprimands.
- Registration number.
- Date of first registration – expiry date of registration.

Student Registration

MRP Students

- Universities will provide student lists to AHPRA
- Details of student registration are not published
- Registration fees do not apply.
- The Student register is confidential.
- These Standards do not apply;
 - Continuing Professional Development
 - Criminal History check
 - English Language Skill
 - Professional Indemnity Insurance
 - Recency of Practice
- **Mandatory Notifications** - students are not required to make a notification, but education providers and other health practitioners are required to make mandatory notifications about an impaired student.

How to Register

If you are working as a Medical Radiation Practitioner on 1 July 2012

Then you must register

- On 1st July 2012 Medical Radiation Practitioners (MRPs) who hold current State or Territory registration will automatically transition into the National Scheme.
- MRPs who are not currently expected to hold State or Territory registration will be required to apply for Registration with the National MRP Board well before 1st July 2012.
- These practitioners include those who currently work in NSW, South Australia and some in the Northern Territory.

Registration application process

- NSW SA & NT Practitioners complete the application form and post or deliver to AHPRA.
- Initial registration period will be 5 months, at pro rata fees, then 12 months to align with 30 November renewal date for MRPs.
- Application should be submitted by the end of March 2012.
- Receipt of applications will be acknowledged and then certificates posted after July 2012, once registration applies.
- Registrants will be listed on the MRPBA website ASAP.

What do I need to do?

Registration in NSW and SA

- Registration information pack will take you through step-by-step, including Criminal History and Grandparenting requirements. This is being mailed to each licensed practitioner in February.
- One-off Application fee, \$300, plus Initial Registration fee, \$135.
- Register early – submit information before 31 March 2012 to enable staff to process the large numbers.
- Unregistered NT practitioners will also need to apply for registration
- All registration information also available at www.medicalradiationpracticeboard.gov.au

What do I need to do?

In Vic, QLD, WA, Tas, ACT and NT

- Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia, Tasmania or ACT (or you are a registered radiographer in NT).
- If you have current registration in a State or Territory you will automatically transition into the new National Scheme on 1st July 2012.
- Please maintain your current State / Territory registration and ensure your contact details are up to date.

Other Matters

NSW is different – How?

- Co-regulatory jurisdiction.
- State MRP Board and AHPRA deal only with registration issues.
- Health Professional Councils and Health Care Complaints Commission deal with notifications – conduct, performance, health.
- Outcomes are recorded in Register of Practitioners and apply nationally.

Radiation Licensing

- States and Territories governments are responsible for the administration of radiation sources.
- Govt Departments issue a licence under legislation that controls the use of X-ray equipment or radioactive materials.
- From 1 July 2012 medical radiation practitioners will need registration and in most cases they will also need to be licensed.
- It is expected that these licences will only be issued by the relevant authorities to MRPs who are registered by the Board.

Registration and Membership of Professional Bodies

- Registration with the MRPBA is separate and independent from any required membership of another organisation i.e.;
- Australian Institute of Radiography (AIR) or,
- Australian and New Zealand Society of Nuclear Medicine (ANZSNM).
- Statement of Accreditation from the AIR or ANZSNM, may be considered as supporting documentation of qualifications in some cases.

State MRP Boards

- The existing State and Territory MRP boards will cease to exist on the 1 July 2012.
- Funds held will be transferred to the national MRP Board.
- The State AHPRA offices may provide assistance in the management of the registration process and notification matters if requested.

Employers responsibilities

1. Check your staff are registered on the Online register.
2. Registration is an individual responsibility but you may be liable in other areas i.e. Medicare claims, and voiding PII cover.
3. Review and be aware of your corporate PI insurance cover.
4. Be aware of the registration requirements.
5. Include “eligibility for registration“ in position descriptions.
6. Familiarise yourself with the Mandatory Notification requirements.
7. Encourage and support suitable CPD.

How do I keep informed about registration?

1. To receive updates and communiqués, send your full name and email address to mrpbaupdate@ahpra.gov.au
2. Make sure all your staff are on our email list.
3. Be proactive with National Registration – Distribute information and talk to your colleagues.
4. Read your professional journals.
5. Check our web site www.medicalradiationpracticeboard.gov.au
6. Check the MRPBA FAQ.

AHPRA contact details

1. Postal Address

AHPRA

GPO Box 9958

in your capital city

2. 1300 419 495

3. www.medicalradiationpracticeboard.gov.au/