

Communiqué

11 May 2015

The Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia (the Board) met in Brisbane on 21 April 2015. The Board discussed a range of matters and provides this update for the interest of stakeholders.

Brisbane Information Session

On Monday 20 April 2015 the Board held an information session at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre.

The Board covered a range of topics including notifications research, preparing for audit, supervised practice and the effects of hybrid imaging on scope of practice.

The discussions on notifications brought some spirited debate and in particular, when it is appropriate to make a notification. It is important that all registered health practitioners are aware of their mandatory reporting obligations under the National Law¹.

Health practitioners are required to advise AHPRA or a National Board of 'notifiable conduct' by another practitioner or, in the case of a student who is undertaking clinical training, an impairment that may place the public at substantial risk of harm.

You are obliged to make a notification when you have formed a reasonable belief that a registered health practitioner is:

- practising the profession in a way that places the public at risk because of a significant departure from accepted professional standards
- practising with an impairment that places the public at risk of substantial harm
- engaging in sexual misconduct in the practice of the profession, or
- practising while intoxicated by drugs or alcohol.

The Board recommends that medical radiation practitioners take the time to read the [guidelines for mandatory notifications](#) for the National Scheme².

Board vacancies

Call for applications for appointment as a content writer for the national examination

Applications are still open for experienced medical radiation practitioners who are interested in appointment as a content writer for the National Examination Committee (the committee).

Content writers will develop a range of questions that are designed to test the *Professional capabilities for medical radiation practice* for diagnostic radiography, radiation therapy and nuclear medicine technology.

The Board is seeking applications from medical radiation practitioners in all divisions of registration who have current knowledge of the capabilities required for practice in the profession and:

- current clinical experience
- experience in clinical training or supervision, or

¹ The Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory.

² The National Registration and Accreditation Scheme

- experience in education and/or assessment.

For general enquiries please contact boardappoint@ahpra.gov.au.

Preparing for audit – Join our webinar

Some practitioners may have received an audit notice. If you have questions about audit or are interested to find out more about your obligations as a registered medical radiation practitioner, the Board is holding a free one-hour webinar on **Friday, 22 May 2015**.

The webinar will cover:

- Background to audits
- What is being audited and what it means to you
- When do audits happen
- What to do if selected for audit
- Where to get more information.

The webinar will include time for a Q&A session and you will be able to send your questions during the presentation.

To participate, you will need a computer connected to the Internet and headphones or speakers to hear the broadcast.

To register for the webinar please go to the *Audit* page on the Board's website at www.medicalradiationpracticeboard.gov.au/Registration/Audit.aspx.

End of grandparenting arrangements

On 30 June 2015, the grandparenting provisions in the National Law that allowed some medical radiation practitioners to become registered when the profession joined the National Scheme in 2010 will end.

Affected practitioners

Medical radiation practitioners who have not yet applied for registration and do not meet the qualifications requirements of section 53 of the National Law will be affected.

After 1 July 2015, the only way to become registered will be by completing an approved program of study, demonstrating substantial equivalence or doing an exam or assessment as required by the Board.

Only medical radiation practitioners who are registered with the Board can practise using protected titles or make claims to be qualified to practise a regulated health profession. Penalties exist if you pretend to be registered (or lead someone to believe that you are) when you are not.

You can check your registration on the [AHPRA homepage](#) using the *Check your health practitioner is registered* search.

Updating contact details

It is important that you keep your registration details up to date so that you receive important reminders. Your email address will be used by AHPRA to send you important information, including renewal notices. To check or update your contact details, visit the [Board's homepage](#) and log in to Online Services. Enter your user ID, date of birth and password to access your account. Please note that your user ID is not your registration number. If you cannot remember your user ID or password, contact us [online](#) or call: 1300 419 495.

Neil Hicks
Chair
Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia