

Communiqué

Meeting of the Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia

23 August 2012

The Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia (the Board) met for the second time on 23 August 2011. The Board considered a number of key issues relating to the registration and accreditation of medical radiation practitioners.

Under the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme, registration and accreditation will become mandatory for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners, Chinese medicine practitioners, occupational therapists and medical radiation practitioners from 1 July 2012.

Stakeholder consultation on draft registration standards

The Board agreed to release a series of draft registration standards for stakeholder consultation over a six week period from 29 August 2011 until 7 October 2011. These standards will include the five mandatory standards covering professional indemnity insurance, matters about the criminal history of applicants for registration, requirements for continuing professional development, requirements for English language skills and requirements in relation to recency of practice.

The Board also agreed to release an additional standard for consultation over the same period covering grandparenting and general registration eligibility arrangements.

Stakeholder feedback will be important in informing the development of the final draft standards which the Board will submit to the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council for approval.

Making a submission

All the draft standards will be available on the Board's website at

<http://www.ahpra.gov.au/sitecore/content/Medical-Radiation/News/Consultations.aspx>

from 29 August 2011 along with details on how to make a submission to the Board.

The Board will publish all submissions, unless marked as confidential, on its website to encourage discussion and inform the community and stakeholders.

Accreditation

Following a decision by the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council (AHWMC) to leave the decision on accreditation arrangements to each Board, the Board agreed that the accreditation functions in relation to the medical radiation profession will be carried out by the Australian Medical Radiation Sciences Accreditation Council.

Communications Strategy

The Board acknowledged that an effective communication strategy incorporating practitioners, governments, the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency, and other key stakeholders will be crucial to the commencement of the new national arrangements by 1 July 2012.

The Board's website will be an important method for communication with all stakeholders. Access is now available at <http://www.ahpra.gov.au/sitecore/content/Medical-Radiation.aspx>

Deputy Chair

The Board acknowledged the importance of having a Deputy Chair in place to ensure the progression of board decision making in circumstances where the Chair is not available for meetings.

Mr Mark Marcenko was appointed by the Board to act in the Deputy Chair position for the board.

Transition of current state and territory Boards

The Board acknowledged the work being undertaken by current state and territory Boards, in conjunction with AHPRA, to support the transition to the national scheme.

Neil Hicks

Chair

31 August 2011