

## Communiqué

### Sixth meeting of the Occupational Therapy Board of Australia

13 December 2011

At its sixth meeting in Melbourne the Occupational Therapy Board of Australia (the Board) discussed a range of matters that will impact on the transition to the national registration and accreditation scheme on 1 July 2012.

This Communiqué aims to inform stakeholders of the progress in the work of the national board.

#### Update on registration standards

The Board is expecting to hear the outcomes of Ministerial Council's consideration of the Board's proposed registration standards very soon. The final standards and information about registration fees will be published on the Board's website at [www.occupationaltherapyboard.gov.au](http://www.occupationaltherapyboard.gov.au) after the Health Ministers' decision.

#### Communication

The Board is focussed on developing and implementing an effective communication plan to facilitate the dissemination of accurate information to both currently registered and non-registered occupational therapists as soon as the approved registration standards are published. FAQs and fact sheets will soon be published on the Board's website. Stakeholder information sessions have been conducted in the ACT and Tasmania. Information sessions are planned for NSW and Victoria in February 2012.

A new feature has been added to the Board's website, enabling practitioners and employers to register to receive email updates. Anyone interested in occupational therapy registration can register for updates via this feature at [www.occupationaltherapyboard.gov.au](http://www.occupationaltherapyboard.gov.au).

#### April letter to current registrants who are automatically transitioning

The Occupational Therapy Board of Australia will be writing to every registered practitioner in March/April 2012. The letter will explain each practitioner's registration type from 1 July 2012 and explain what occupational therapists have to do to transition to the national scheme. The letter will detail the information that will appear on the online national Register of occupational therapists.

The Board made a range of decisions about this transitioning process. In general, occupational therapists will transition to the type of registration that best matches their current registration.

Currently registered practitioners are encouraged to ensure that their current contact details are up to date with their relevant State / Territory Board (QLD, SA, WA, ACT).

## **General matters**

The Board is planning to hold a workshop for its members on notifications and assessing registrations, in lieu of a January meeting.

Dr Mary Russell

Chair

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