

Communiqué

Eleventh meeting of the Occupational Therapy Board of Australia

19 June 2012

At its June meeting 2012 the Occupational Therapy Board of Australia (the Board) discussed a wide range of matters that will impact on the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme).

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

New Board Member

The Board was pleased to welcome its new member, community representative Ms Louise Johnson.

Louise currently works as CEO of the Victorian Assisted Reproductive Treatment Authority (VARTA) and has previously held a position as Executive Director (1997 – 2005) with the Australian Association of Occupational Therapists Victoria Inc.

This appointment now completes the full Board.

National Registration for Occupational Therapists

The Board noted that the 1 July 2012 deadline for national registration is fast approaching and were grateful for the huge effort undertaken by all involved in preparing for the many thousands of occupational therapists entering the National Scheme.

To assist the transitional arrangements for practitioners AHPRA has released advice to employers about AHPRA's approach to enforcement of title protection for occupational therapists during the transitional period immediately following 1 July 2012. Further information is available at the Board's website www.occupationaltherapyboard.gov.au

Supervision Guidelines

The public consultation period for the Board's proposed Supervision Guidelines closed on Friday 15 June. The Board will take into consideration all submissions received when finalising its guidelines and appreciates the feedback received from stakeholders. Submissions approved for publication are available at the Board's website: www.occupationaltherapyboard.gov.au/News/Past-Consultations.aspx

Accreditation Matters

The Board is progressing matters relating to accreditation arrangements with its appointed accreditation authority the Occupational Therapy Council (Aust & NZ). Accreditation functions of the accreditation authority are defined by the National Law and include in part:

- developing accreditation standards for approval by a National Board;
- assessing programs of study, and the education providers that provide the programs of study;

- overseeing the assessment of the knowledge, clinical skills and professional attributes of overseas qualified health practitioners; and
- making recommendations and giving advice to a National Board, for the above.

Chairperson

Dr Mary Russell
19 June 2012