

Communiqué

April 2016 meeting of the Occupational Therapy Board of Australia

The Occupational Therapy Board of Australia (the Board) is established under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory (the National Law).

The Board meets face-to-face each month to consider and decide on any matters related to its regulatory functions within the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme).

This communiqué aims to inform stakeholders of the work of the Board.

Registration standard review update

The Board received a project update regarding its review of the registration standards for continuing professional development, recency of practice and professional indemnity insurance arrangements. A suite of consultation material relating to these standards is being finalised and the Board anticipates preliminary consultation will start in May 2016. The Board looks forward to working with its key stakeholders during this phase of the review.

Competency standards development project

Significant progress in the development of new competency standards for the profession has been made. The Board anticipates that it will begin preliminary consultation in the coming months and looks forward to working with the profession on this important piece of work.

Occupational therapy regulation at work

The Board has released a report of its work for 2014/15.

During 2014/15 the Board continued its program of engagement and informing the profession. A number of breakfast forums and webinars were held to ensure that occupational therapists understand their registration requirements.

The year's work included the start of a review of three profession-specific registration standards and a project to develop new competency standards for the profession (updates in this communiqué).

A copy of the report can be downloaded from the Board's [website](#).

Quarterly performance reports released

The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) and the National Boards, including the Occupational Therapy Board, have released new information about their performance in each state and territory to improve transparency and accountability.

The comprehensive information and data has been published on the [AHPRA website](#) to help the community and health practitioners better understand what AHPRA and the National Boards do and how.

The quarterly performance reports include data specific to each state and territory for the period October to December 2015 and covers AHPRA and the National Boards' main areas of activity in implementing the National Scheme.

To provide feedback on the reports email: reportingfeedback@ahpra.gov.au.

Swinburne University of Technology accreditation of program

The Board has agreed to approve the accreditation with conditions of the Master of Occupational Therapy program to be offered by Swinburne University of technology.

This decision was based on advice received from the [Occupational Therapy Council \(Australia and New Zealand\)](#).

Local data summaries published

The National Boards and AHPRA have published [reports for each state and territory](#) on the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme). The reports provide a unique insight on local outcomes within a scheme for which the core focus is protection of the public. They are for the 2014/15 year of the scheme.

The summaries provide local data on registration types, notifications (complaints) and mandatory notifications for the regulated health professions, for each state and territory.

Keeping in touch with the Board

The Board publishes a range of information about registration and its expectations of practitioners on its website at www.occupationaltherapyboard.gov.au or www.ahpra.gov.au. Practitioners are encouraged to refer to the site for news and updates on policy and guidelines affecting their profession.

Julie Brayshaw

Chair

Occupational Therapy Board of Australia

28 April 2016