

ADVANCE NOTICE OF CONSULTATION PERIOD ON REGISTRATION MATTERS: OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2009

The Chairs of the ten new national boards would like to advise all those with an interest in the new National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for the Health Professions that there will be a period of public consultation of at least four weeks in late October and November 2009 on proposals from the ten national boards relating to registration matters.

All boards will be consulting on proposals for registration standards to apply from 1 July 2010. Registration standards will cover requirements for such matters as continuing professional development, professional indemnity insurance, criminal history, English language skills and previous practice. Some boards will also be consulting on proposals relating to specialist registration, endorsements of registration and other matters identified by particular boards.

The purpose of this notice is to alert those with an interest to the proposed timing for the consultation. This will help organisations and individuals to make arrangements to consider and respond to the proposals.

The process is designed to enable boards to make recommendations to the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council on matters where Council approval is required and to ensure all matters can be settled by Ministerial Council by the end of March 2010. Approval by this date will make sure that the preparations for the transition of registrants to the new scheme can be completed smoothly and successfully on 1 July 2010. It will also enable intending registrants and renewing registrants to have all the information they need ahead of the commencement of the new scheme.

The websites for the new national boards are not yet in place but should be available by the consultation period. Meanwhile you may wish to monitor the Agency's website, www.ahpra.gov.au, for any updates on the national boards and the consultation process.

Dr Phillip Donato, Chair, Chiropractic Board of Australia

Dr John Lockwood, Chair, Dental Board of Australia

Dr Joanna Flynn, Chair, Medical Board of Australia

Ms Anne Copeland, Chair, Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia

Mr Colin Waldron, Chair, Optometry Board of Australia

Mr Robert Fendall, Chair, Osteopathy Board of Australia

Mr Stephen Marty, Chair, Pharmacy Board of Australia

Mr Glenn Ruscoe, Chair, Physiotherapy Board of Australia

Mr Jason Warnock, Chair, Podiatry Board of Australia

Associate Professor Brin Grenyer, Chair, Psychology Board of Australia

17 September 2009