



Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council

COMMUNIQUÉ

18 July 2011

HEALTH MINISTERS ANNOUNCE NATIONAL BOARD APPOINTMENTS FOR THE FOUR HEALTH PROFESSIONS JOINING THE NATIONAL REGISTRATION AND ACCREDITATION SCHEME IN 2012

The Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council announced today the appointment of the 39 inaugural members to the National Boards for the four health professions that will join the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme on 1 July 2012.

These appointments are made under the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act*, as in force in each State and Territory, from 1 July 2011. The National Boards will begin important preparatory work to enable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners, Chinese medicine practitioners, medical radiation practitioners and occupational therapists to join the national scheme.

In making the appointments, Ministers took into account the feedback they received from more than 45 submissions on the size and composition of the boards. Ministers decided that three of the boards will have nine members, comprising six practitioner members and three community members each.

These boards are:

- The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Board of Australia
- The Chinese Medicine Board of Australia
- Occupational Therapy Board of Australia

Ministers decided that the Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia will have 12 members, comprising eight practitioner members and four community members. For this board, Ministers have appointed four diagnostic radiographers, two radiation therapists and two nuclear medicine technologists as the practitioner members.

Ministers were delighted with the response to the press advertisement for board member appointments which closed in April this year. More than 200 candidates expressed interest in a board appointment. Ministers were also pleased to see the strong field of candidates for both the practitioner and community members.

The Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council also considered preferred accreditation arrangements for the next four professions, taking account of the views expressed in 25 submissions on this matter. Ministers formed the view that the decision on preferred accreditation arrangements should be left to the National Boards. The National Boards will therefore decide whether to either appoint an external body or establish an accreditation committee to undertake the accreditation functions for their professions under the national scheme.

As the four professions have been partially regulated across Australia, Ministers acknowledge that a number of board members will be new to regulation and that there is a significant amount of work to do, but believe that with these appointments the new professions will be in good hands.

Ministers were particularly pleased to note that there are 10 practitioner members and 3 community members who live in a rural or regional area. Of the 26 practitioner members, 9 are members with education and training expertise. Of the total of 39 members, 12 are male and 27 are female, which is representative of these professions.

Ministers welcome the board members to their new roles and wish them well over the coming years in building and strengthening the new national arrangements for the benefit of the whole Australian community.

The Hon Dr Kim Hames
Chair, Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council

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Attachment to Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council **18 July 2011 Communiqué**

Appointments made to the National Boards for the next four health professions by resolution of the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council under the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act*, as in force in each State and Territory

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Board of Australia

Peter Pangquee	Appointed as Chair and practitioner member from the Northern Territory
Clare Anderson	Appointed as a community member
Karrina DeMasi	Appointed as a community member
Sharon Milera	Appointed as a practitioner member from South Australia
Lisa O'Hara	Appointed as a practitioner member from New South Wales
Renee Owen	Appointed as a practitioner member from Victoria
Jenny Poelina	Appointed as a practitioner member from Western Australia
Jane Schwager	Appointed as a community member
Karen West	Appointed as a practitioner member from Queensland

Chinese Medicine Board of Australia

Charlie Xue	Appointed as Chair and practitioner member from Victoria
Alison Christou	Appointed as a community member
Jenny Chou	Appointed as a practitioner member from South Australia
Stephen Janz	Appointed as a practitioner member from Queensland
Di Wen Lai	Appointed as a practitioner member from Western Australia
Vivian Lin	Appointed as a community member
Haisong Wang	Appointed as a practitioner member from the Australian Capital Territory
Xiaoshu Zhu	Appointed as a practitioner member from New South Wales
Craig Zimitat	Appointed as a community member

Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia

Neil Hicks	Appointed as Chair and practitioner member (diagnostic radiographer) from Western Australia
Susan Baldwin	Appointed as a practitioner member (nuclear medicine technologist) from Queensland
Liz Benson	Appointed as a community member
Marcia Fleet	Appointed as a practitioner member (radiation therapist) from Victoria
Kar Giam	Appointed as a practitioner member (radiation therapist) from the Northern Territory
Myrtle Green	Appointed as a community member
Christopher Hicks	Appointed as a practitioner member (diagnostic radiographer) from the Australian Capital Territory
Robyn Hopcroft	Appointed as a community member
Mark Marcenko	Appointed as a practitioner member (nuclear medicine technologist) from Tasmania
Christopher Pilkington	Appointed as a practitioner member (diagnostic radiographer) from South Australia
Tracy Vitucci	Appointed as a practitioner member (diagnostic radiographer) from New South Wales
Rosie Yeo	Appointed as a community member

Occupational Therapy Board of Australia

Mary Russell	Appointed as Chair and practitioner member from South Australia
Amanda Bladen	Appointed as a practitioner member from Victoria
Julie Brayshaw	Appointed as a practitioner member from Western Australia
James (Jim) Carmichael	Appointed as a practitioner member from Queensland
Catherine (Kate) Gauthier	Appointed as a community member
Katherine Moore	Appointed as a practitioner member from New South Wales
Louisa O'Grady	Appointed as a community member
Terina Saunders	Appointed as a practitioner member from the Northern Territory
Andrew Taylor	Appointed as a community member