

Communiqué

Meeting of the Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia

22 October 2013

The Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia met in Sydney on 22 October 2013, following an information forum for practitioners held at Westmead Hospital on 21 October 2013.

English language skills and Criminal History standards under review

The Board noted the commencement of public consultation on the review of the English language skills and Criminal History standards. The consultation paper is available from the [Current consultations web page](#) and submissions are welcomed from all interested individuals and organisations. The deadline for written submissions is 23 December 2013.

The English language skills registration standard sets minimum requirements for practitioners to make sure they can communicate effectively and provide safe care to the Australian community. To support evidence-based policy setting, the National Boards commissioned research on English language skills for health professionals. A summary of the research is published in the consultation paper. The research was one of several information sources the National Boards considered when revising the English language registration standard, along with three years practical experience of the current regulatory requirement, historical approaches and the approaches of comparable jurisdictions.

The criminal history registration standard sets out what National Boards will consider when deciding whether a health practitioner's criminal history is relevant to their practice of their profession. The National Law determines what information practitioners must declare to Boards about their criminal history.

Continuing Professional Development

The Board discussed queries raised by practitioners in relation to CPD requirements for practitioners registered in more than one MRP division. The Board agreed that practitioners registered in more than one division would be required to meet the minimum requirements of the registration standard (including undertaking 60 hours of CPD in a three year period), and that there was no additional requirement to meet a greater amount of CPD than required by the registration standard.

The Board agreed that practitioners registered in more than one division of registration would be expected to undertake substantive CPD activities that addressed practice in all divisions in which they are registered. The Board's CPD Guidelines will be amended to clarify these requirements.

Workforce Innovation and Reform

The Board noted that recruitment for the Working Group on Workforce Innovation and Reform is underway, and discussed options to ensure engagement with a broad range of stakeholders on issues related to future regulation to support innovation and reform in the medical radiation practice workforce.

Information sessions

The Board discussed questions and feedback from practitioners during Sydney and Melbourne information sessions.

These information sessions aim to:

- outline CPD requirements
- update practitioners about registration standards including supervised practice
- demystify the complaints/notifications process, and
- answer questions from the floor

Further information sessions are being held in November and the details are listed below. These sessions are free to practitioners and refreshments provided, but **bookings are essential**, so please email Board-MRP-RSVP@ahpra.gov.au to register your interest in attending one of the sessions.

For those unable to attend a session, the slides with voiceover will be available to download from the MRPBA website.

Adelaide information session– Royal Adelaide Hospital

Monday 18 November, 6pm to 7.30pm

Robson Lecture Theatre, Level 2, Eleanor Harrauld Building
Royal Adelaide Hospital, North Terrace, Adelaide SA

Brisbane information session – Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital

Monday 25 November, 5.30pm to 7.30pm

Seminar Rooms 1 and 2, Education Centre, Block 1
Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital
Corner Butterfield St and Bowen Bridge Rd, Herston QLD

Canberra information session – Cavalry Hospital

Thursday 28 November, 5.30pm to 7.30pm

Seminar room, Lewisham building, Calvary Hospital
Haydon Drive, Bruce, ACT

Neil Hicks

Chair

Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia

For more information:

- For all media enquiries: (03) 8708 9200
- Visit www.medicalradiationpracticeboard.gov.au/
- Practitioners with registration enquiries can call 1300 419 495 (from within Australia), or +61 3 8708 9001 (from overseas)