30 October 2015

Changes to the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) registration standard

What has changed?

The following are the main changes in the new CPD registration standard commencing 1 December 2015.

Provisional registrants are required to undertake CPD

As of 1 December 2015 provisional registrants are required meet the CPD registration standard.

As with all other practitioners, provisional registrants must begin meeting the CPD registration standard from the day they are first registered.

When a person registers for the first time the number of CPD hours to be completed will be calculated on a pro rata basis according to a formula published by the Board in its CPD guidelines.

Provisional registrants enter the triennium on the day they are first registered and must complete a minimum of 10 hours of CPD in their first year of registration.

Changing from provisional registration to general registration does not affect the amount of CPD a practitioner is required to complete in the triennium.

CPD programs no longer require approval from the Board.

This change lifts the previous restrictions so that groups or organisations can offer CPD programs for medical radiation practitioners without requiring approval from the Board.

The onus is on practitioners to meet the Board’s CPD requirements and they can do this through self-directed CPD activities, participation in a CPD program or a combination of both.

At least 35 hours of CPD activities must be substantive

Previously the Board had specified that most CPD activities had to be substantive.

In the interests of clarity, the Board has specified that a practitioner must complete at least 35 hours of substantive CPD activities throughout a triennium.

Substantive activities are those activities that have that have significant intellectual or practical content primarily directed to a practitioner’s practice or expansion of practice.
Focus on reflection

The benefit of undertaking CPD is greatest when the practitioner takes the time to reflect about what the CPD activity has taught them. By understanding what it is a practitioner has learnt, they are able to gain a greater insight into what it is they do not know.

While thinking about a CPD activity is valuable, it's the act of converting thinking into expression (e.g. writing) that provides practitioners with a clearest understanding about what it is they have learnt.

The CPD Guidelines provide a CPD logbook template for recording CPD activities, including the reflection components. The recording of reflection only needs to be brief, but each component does need to be actively considered and recorded.