



Communiqué

5 April 2011

A meeting of the Pharmacy Board of Australia was held on 25 March 2011 at the national office of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) in Melbourne.

Guidelines on practice-specific issues –Guideline 1 (List of References)

The Board has released a consultation paper on minor changes to the list of references in Guideline 1 of the Board's 'Guidelines on practice specific issues.' These references must be readily accessible by pharmacists during the dispensing, clinical assessment, reviewing and counselling processes. Stakeholders are invited to make a submission on the proposals outlined in the consultation paper which is published on the Board's website (<http://www.pharmacyboard.gov.au/News/Current-Consultations.aspx>). The closing date for submissions is Friday 27 May 2011.

Budget preparations

The Board's Finance and Governance Committee is developing the Board's 2011 / 2012 budget, which is a cornerstone of the Health Profession Agreement (HPA) with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA). The HPA specifies the fees for registration and the services provided to the Board by AHPRA. The Board will advise the profession of registration fees for the 2012 year in due course.

Board committees

The Board has been monitoring the increasing workload of its Registration and Notifications Committee since the commencement of the national registration scheme. As a result, it has reviewed the terms of reference and restructured its committees. From May 2011, notifications will be considered by the Notifications Committee with all registration matters to be considered by the Registration and Examinations Committee. Revised terms of reference for each committee have been drafted and changes to the Board's instrument of delegation will also outline each committee's powers under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act (the National Law) as in force in each state and territory.

Examination appeals fee

The Board resolved to introduce an oral examination appeals fee. The appeals process is outlined in the oral examination candidate guide, published on the Board's website. A candidate who lodges an appeal is required to pay a fee of \$150 for an internal review or for an external review. Application forms are available from AHPRA staff at the conclusion of the candidate's examination review meeting.

Stephen Marty
Chair
5 April 2011