



## Communiqué

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### March 2019 meeting of the Paramedicine Board of Australia

The Paramedicine Board of Australia (the Board) is established under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (the National Law).

The Board meets each month to consider and decide on any matters related to its regulatory function within the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme).

This communiqué aims to inform stakeholders about the work of the Board. Please share it on to colleagues or employees who may be interested.

The Board held its 17th meeting at the AHPRA National Office in Melbourne on 29 March 2019.

#### Self-assessment factsheet and tool approved

The Board has approved a self-assessment tool and supporting factsheet to assist paramedics making applications under s311(1)(b) and s311(1)(c). This template will help applicants to show the paramedic capabilities they demonstrate in the work and practice they have undertaken and are seeking to rely upon for the purposes of registration.

Applicants will be provided copies of these documents where they are required and versions will be published for information on the Boards website in due course.

#### Have your say: How should we define 'cultural safety'?

AHPRA, the National Boards and Accreditation Authorities in the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme) which regulates registered health practitioners in Australia have partnered with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health leaders and the National Health Leadership Forum (NHLF) to release a [public consultation](#).

Together, they are seeking feedback on a proposed definition of 'cultural safety' to develop an agreed, national baseline definition that can be used as a foundation for embedding cultural safety across all functions in the National Scheme and for use by the NHLF.

In total, there are 44 organisations represented in this consultation, which is being coordinated by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Strategy Group (the Strategy Group), which is convened by AHPRA, and the NHLF.

The consultation is a continuation of the work by the National Scheme's Strategy Group that has achieving health equity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as its overall goal. Members of the Group include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health leaders and members from AHPRA, National Boards, Accreditation Authorities and NSW Councils.

The six-week consultation is open to the public. Everyone interested in helping to shape the definition of 'cultural safety' that will be used in the National Scheme and by NHLF members is warmly invited to share their views.

The [consultation](#) is open until 5:00pm, Wednesday 15 May 2019.

Help define this important term for the National Scheme. For more information read the [media release](#) on the AHPRA website.

### **Titles in health advertising – how to get it right**

A new resource to help practitioners understand their legal obligations when using titles in health advertising addresses the uncertainty some podiatrists might have around this issue.

Misuse of a protected title, specialist title or endorsements is an offence under sections 113-119 of the National Law or may constitute behaviour for which health, conduct or performance action may be taken against a registered health practitioner under Part 8 of the National Law.

However, advertisers should also be aware that while use of some titles may not necessarily breach title protections under sections 113-119, they may be considered false, misleading or deceptive under the advertising provisions in the National Law (section 133).

The titles tool will help practitioners understand how titles can be used in advertising. It also outlines some of the common pitfalls that can result in titles being considered misleading under the National Law.

The titles tool is the latest in a series of [resources and support materials](#) developed by AHPRA and National Boards to help health practitioners, healthcare providers and other advertisers of regulated health services check and correct their advertising so it complies with the National Law.

The [titles tool](#) is available in the Advertising resources section of the AHPRA website.

### **COAG Health Council communiqué**

The COAG Health Council met on Friday 8 March in Adelaide. Items of relevance included a plan to develop a medical workforce strategy, cultural safety for health professionals, and options for a nationally consistent approach to the regulation of spinal manipulation of children. A copy of the Communiqué can be accessed [here](#).

### **Further information**

The Board publishes a range of information for paramedics on its [website](#) and practitioners are encouraged to refer to the site for news and updates on policies and guidelines affecting the podiatry profession.

For more information about registration, notifications or other matters relevant to the National Scheme, please refer to the information published on [www.ahpra.gov.au](http://www.ahpra.gov.au). Alternatively, contact AHPRA by an [online enquiry form](#) or phone 1300 419 495.

### **Follow AHPRA on social media**

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Chair, Paramedicine Board of Australia