



## THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE NURSING AND MIDWIFERY BOARD OF AUSTRALIA

28 October 2010

The thirteenth meeting of the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) was held on the 28 October 2010 at AHPRA National Office, Level 7, 111 Bourke Street, Melbourne, Victoria. This communiqué aims to inform stakeholders of the decisions and actions of the Board arising from this meeting.

### Transition Arrangements

#### Western Australia

Western Australia joined the National Scheme on Monday October 2010. All nurses and midwives who were registered by the Nurses and Midwives Board of Australia are now registered by the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia.

The Western Australian office of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) has opened. The contact details for this office are available on the AHPRA website at <http://www.ahpra.gov.au/>. AHPRA manages all registrations, notifications and financial matters on behalf of the Board.

Registrants should contact this office with any issues or concerns regarding the transition of their registration.

Both NMBA's website and that of AHPRA are being updated frequently. Applicants and registrants are advised to review these websites on a regular basis.

### Renewal of Registration

Over the next few months nurses and midwives across the different jurisdictions will be sent registration renewal notices. This will coincide with the renewal date of the previous state based regulatory body.

NMBA would like to remind all nurses and midwives of their professional and legal responsibility to ensure that they renew their registration on time. Any registrant who does not renew their registration on time may have their name removed from the National Register.

Registrants are required to ensure that AHPRA holds a current mail address. A change of address form is available at <http://www.ahpra.gov.au/Registration/Registration-Process/Common-Application-Forms.aspx>.



## Eligible midwives

NMBA has approved the first cohort of midwives for notation as eligible midwives. These midwives met the requirements of the registration standard for eligible midwives. They *do not* as yet hold an approved qualification to prescribe scheduled medicines.

Further information on the scope of practice of eligible midwives can be found in the registration standard and the *Guidelines for Education Requirements for Recognition as Eligible Midwives and Accreditation Standards for programs of study leading to endorsement for scheduled medicines for Eligible Midwives*.

## Conclusion

As stated in previous communiqués, the Board will continue to review and develop standards, codes and guidelines across a range of issues relating to the registration and practice of nurses and midwives in Australia. This includes a range of pending consultation documents that will be released over coming months.

Individual nurses and midwives are encouraged to keep themselves informed of their obligations as registrants under the National Scheme and information pertinent to them by checking the Board's website at regular intervals and by encouraging their colleagues to do the same.