

Statement

3 May 2012

Use of 'practitioner' in inaugural e-newsletter

The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (the National Board) welcomes the feedback it has received to the inaugural e-newsletter.

We see how the use of the word 'practitioner' may be confusing for nurses and midwives, as there is a nurse practitioner registration type with the National Board.

This was certainly not the intention of the National Board.

'Practitioner' is a word that gets used a lot in communications from the National Boards in the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme).

This is because in the Health Practitioner Regulation Law, as in force in each state and territory (the National Law), the term 'health practitioner' is a defined term meaning an individual who practises a health profession.

Now that this issue has been brought to the National Board's attention, every effort will be made to use 'nurse' and 'midwife' instead of 'practitioner' in future communications issued by the National Board and AHPRA.

Thank you for taking the time to contact the Board with your feedback.

For more information

- Follow the Board on Twitter! Join us via www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au and keep up to date with regular Board news and updates
- Visit www.ahpra.gov.au under *Contact us* to lodge an online enquiry form
- For registration enquiries: 1300 419 495 (within Australia) +61 3 8708 9001 (overseas callers)
- For media enquiries: (03) 8708 9200