

Communiqué

Meeting of the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia 19 April 2012 in the AHPRA office Perth, Western Australia

The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (the National Board or NMBA) is the national regulator for nursing and midwifery in Australia. It is established under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory (the National Law). The Board meets monthly and discusses a range of issues, the most important of which are published in this Communiqué.

ANZAC Day - Recognition of nurses and midwives

ANZAC Day is an important day whereby we remember those brave men who fought and lost their lives far away from their home in Gallipoli and other theatres of war. It is also a day to remember the Australian nurses who worked aboard hospital ships and spent a large portion of their time at sea. They travelled between the waters just outside Anzac Cove and the general hospitals on the Greek Islands, sometimes sailing up to 1050 kilometres to Alexandria in Egypt. On board these ships it was not uncommon for a nurse on night duty to look after 250 patients with only one orderly to assist her.

Over the years Anzac Day has come to represent much more and it is with this ideal that the National Board acknowledges all those nurses and midwives who have undertaken active service in a theatre of war or, as civilians, have continued to provide professional nursing and midwifery care to those in need where armed conflict has injured and/or displaced large numbers of the country's population.

2012 Renewal of Registration

By Tuesday 24 April 2012, approximately 19% of nurses and midwives had renewed their registration on-line.

Check your contact details – make sure your contact details supplied to AHPRA, including email and mobile telephone, are correct and current. This will allow AHPRA to send you renewal reminders and to contact you easily. Click on 'Update Contact Details' located under *Services for Practitioners* at the bottom left of the home pages of www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au or www.ahpra.gov.au

Check your registration details and expiry date – nurses and midwives should check their registration details are correct and note their registration expiry date on the National Registers of Nurses and Midwives, accessible at www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au or via www.ahpra.gov.au. Enter your last name and profession to search.

Watch for the reminders to renew registration – a series of email and hard copy renewal reminders have been sent directly to nurses and midwives and include your unique user ID for online renewal.

Use online services for quick and easy renewal of registration – most practitioners can renew registration online using the unique user ID provided by AHPRA. Click on *Renew your registration online* located on the top right of the home pages of www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au and www.ahpra.gov.au and follow the prompts. Nurses and midwives who do not have their unique user ID can get it by submitting an online enquiry form – selecting 'user ID' as the category of enquiry or by phoning 1300 419 495. Practitioners can also mail their renewal application to AHPRA, GPO Box 9958, in their capital city.

National review of enrolled nurse competency standards

The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia is now seeking suitably qualified and experienced parties to review the NMBA Enrolled Nurse Competency Standards. Since the national competency standards for enrolled nurses were developed, there have been substantial developments in both the role and scope of practice of enrolled nurses across Australia. This includes the model of education and training leading to registration as an enrolled nurse and the regulatory framework within which enrolled nurses practice.

The National Registration and Accreditation Scheme includes the independent accreditation of approved programs of study leading to registration. This has provided a catalyst to review the enrolled nurse competency standards to ensure they reflect contemporary practice and appropriate educational preparation. This is a critically important project for the National Board, which is advertising for a second time to identify a suitable external provider to undertake this extensive project. The following documents are published on the National Board's website www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au:

[Request for Tender - Review of Competency Standards for the Enrolled Nurse](#) (257 KB,PDF)

[AHPRA - Agreement For Provision Of Goods Or Services](#) (75.8 KB,PDF)

The closing date for submissions is [5pm on Monday 21 May 2012](#).

For further information about these documents or the tender process, please contact Petrina Halloran, Senior Policy Officer to the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia at nbmafeedback@ahpra.gov.au.

National review of nurse practitioner competency standards

AHPRA, on behalf of the National Board, has appointed a project team to review the existing NMBA National Competency Standards for Nurse Practitioners. This team will be led by Professor Andrew Cashin from Southern Cross University in New South Wales.

The selection of a suitably qualified and experienced external project team is essential. Professor Cashin's team will undertake rigorous evidence-based research, analysis and stakeholder consultation required to revalidate and, where appropriate, revise the existing NMBA Nurse Practitioner Competency Standards. These will become the competency standards that inform the contemporary scope of practice of Nurse Practitioners in Australia. The project team will begin work in May 2012 with a completion date of March 2013.

Approval of accredited programs of study

The National Board approved for five years the following program of study as providing a qualification for the purposes of registration:

- University of Notre Dame Graduate Diploma in Midwifery (Fremantle)

The National Board approved the following major change to campuses to be included in the existing Approved Programs of Study list:

- Remove the Ringwood campus and add Blackburn campus to the Navitas Health Skills Australia Diploma of Nursing

Website and receiving important information by email

Further information about the National Board can be found at: www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au. Nurses and midwives are encouraged to refer to the site for news and updates on Standards, Codes and Guidelines relating to their professions.

Nurses and midwives are also encouraged to provide their email address to AHPRA (by updating their contact details online). This will enable the National Board to send e-newsletters and other important information about the professions, and AHPRA to contact nurses and midwives about important registration or renewal information.

Ms Anne Copeland

Chair, Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia

7 May 2012

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.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au under *Contact Us* to lodge an online enquiry form
- For registration enquiries: 1300 419 495 (within Australia) +61 7 3666 4911 (overseas callers)