

Communiqué

Meeting of the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia 26 February in the AHPRA office, Tasmania

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 NMBA meets monthly and considers a range of matters, the most important of which are published in this Communiqué.

In order to facilitate engagement with local stakeholders across states and territories, the NMBA now holds its monthly meeting in a different state and territory every two to three months.

This helps the NMBA to gain a better understanding of the jurisdictional matters relating to the regulation of enrolled nurses, registered nurses, midwives and students.

It also supports information sharing on the NMBA's strategic priorities, projects and regulatory functions with local representatives from the professional and industrial organisations, education providers and employers, health department and members of the local state or territory board of the NMBA.

Approved EN standards for practice and that an implementation strategy will be developed

In 2012 the NMBA funded Monash University to review the Enrolled Nurse (EN) Standards for Practice (formerly titled competency standards). The purpose of this project was to review the EN standards for practice for relevance and currency against the contemporary role and scope of practice of the EN. During the course of the project there was extensive consultation with stakeholders on the revised Standards for Practice.

The NMBA has approved the Enrolled Nurse Standards for Practice (2014) and is now developing an implementation strategy to ensure that all stakeholders are aware of the new standards and their application.

Invitation from Sigma Theta Thoa – acknowledging our international expertise / strategic leadership

The Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International is working with global nursing leaders to create a vision for the future of nursing practice to improve health outcomes around the world. Dr Lynette Cusack, Chair of the NMBA, as a recognised leader of nursing and midwifery regulation in Australia has been invited to the Global Advisory Panel on the future of nursing. The meeting will be held June in South Korea.

Meeting in Hobart and stakeholder forum

The National Board held a stakeholder forum on 25 February 2014 in Hobart. Participants included nursing and midwifery professional associations, representatives from health services, government and education providers.

The purpose of the forum was to enable:

Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia

G.P.O. Box 9958 | Melbourne VIC 3001 | www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au

- the NMBA to outline its strategic directions and work of National committees for policy, accreditation, finance and governance, and
- local stakeholders to ask questions and discuss the NMBA's role and work in regulating nurses, midwives and students.

In addition to a question and answer session, topics covered included:

- National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (National Scheme)
- Functions of the National Board
- Functions of AHPRA
- NMBA strategic plan 2013-2015
- State and territory boards of the NMBA, and
- National Committees of the National Board i.e. Finance and Governance Committee, Policy Committee and the Accreditation Committee.

As well as National Board members presenting, Tasmanian AHPRA representatives were in attendance to address operational matters arising.

Participant feedback was overall good and confirmed that the forum provided networking opportunities, with good participation and interaction.

Agreed NMBA 2015/16 business plan

The NMBA approved its work plan aligning the activities, project initiatives and business as usual with the 2013-2016 NMBA strategic objectives. The plan enables the NMBA in partnership with AHPRA to deliver its regulatory functions and provide for protection of the public.

ANZAC Day commemoration ceremonies

This ANZAC Day will mark 100 years since the ANZAC landings at Gallipoli. The NMBA would like to acknowledge this important anniversary. NMBA members will attend various ANZAC day ceremonies to remember in particular nurses and midwives who have served Australia in times of war and conflict.

Approved programs of study leading to registration and endorsement

The NMBA has approved the following programs of study in February 2015

Approved amendment of an accredited nursing and midwifery program:

Education Provider	Program	Modification
Monash University	Initial Registration for Overseas Nurses (Registered Nurse)	Change of name to the Initial Registration for Overseas Nurses (Registered Nurse) to Internationally Qualified Nurse (Registered Nurse).

Approved prolongation of accreditation for the following currently accredited nursing programs:

Education Provider	Program	Details
Wimmera Health Care Group	Initial Registration Course for Division 1 Overseas Registered Nurses	An extension of the current accreditation period from 20 November 2015 to 20 May 2016.

	Return to Practice program for Division 1 Registered Nurses	An extension of the current accreditation period from 20 November 2015 to 20 May 2016.
Wimmera Health Care Group	Initial Registration Course for Division 2 Overseas Registered Nurses	An extension of the current accreditation period from 20 November 2015 to 20 November 2016.
	Return to Practice program for Division 2 Registered Nurses	An extension of the current accreditation period from 20 November 2015 to 20 November 2016.
University of South Australia	Australian Registered Nurse Training Program	An extension of the current accreditation period from 7 May 2015 to 7 May 2016.

Dr Lynette Cusack, Registered Nurse
Chair, Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia
17 March 2015

For more information

- Keep up to date with regular news and updates on the National Board website www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au
- Visit www.nursingmidwiferyboard.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