

Communiqué

Meeting of the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia held on 26 May at the Mantra on the Esplanade, Darwin.

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.

Darwin stakeholder information forum

As part of its engagement with nurses and midwives on the revised registration standards, standards for practice and guidelines, the NMBA is continuing to hold information forums across Australia. The NMBA held a successful forum at Royal Darwin Hospital on 25 May, attended by around 100 nurses and midwives.

More information forums are scheduled for 2016 and nurses and midwives will receive an email invitation if a forum is held near their place of work.

Therese Kearns attendance at NMBA meeting

The NMBA welcomed Dr Therese Kearns, practitioner member, of the Northern Territory board of the NMBA to the meeting. Attendance at national meetings provides local board members with opportunities to share information and observe the work of the NMBA.

NMBA meeting locations for 2017

The NMBA confirmed its schedule of meeting locations to be held in jurisdictions other than Victoria for 2017:

- 29 – 31 March, Hobart, Tasmania
- 26 – 28 July, Brisbane, Queensland
- 27 – 29 September, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory, and
- 22 – 24 November, Adelaide, South Australia.

International Council of Nurses meetings

Ms Annette Symes represented the NMBA at the International Council of Nurses Credentialing and Regulators forum in Geneva, Switzerland on 18-19 May 2016. The forum was an opportunity to share different approaches to professional regulation internationally, consider the future of the nursing and midwifery workforce and develop potential solutions to shared challenges. The next forum is scheduled to be hosted by the Ireland Nurses Association in Dublin, during November 2017.

World Health Professions Regulation Conference 2016

The NMBA received an update from the AHPRA CEO, Mr Martin Fletcher, regarding the recent the World Health Professions Regulation Conference in Geneva on 21-22 May 2016. The conference examined important issues for health regulation such as:

- increased mobility of health professions
- critical shortages of skilled health professionals (midwives, nurses and physicians) in 57 countries, and
- the centrality of health workers for accelerating progress towards the health-related Millennium Development Goals.

English language skills policy

The NMBA approved a revised English language skills policy. The revised policy provides clarity to applicants and AHPRA staff about meeting the requirements of the NMBA's *English language skills registration standard*.

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

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 9275 9009 (overseas callers)
- For media enquiries: (03) 8708 9200