



Podiatrists Board of New Zealand

Te Poari Tiaki Waewae O Aotearoa

EMAIL
WEBSITE

registrar@podiatristsboard.org.nz
podiatristsboard.org.nz

FEBRUARY 2010

E NEWSLETTER

The Board would like to wish all podiatrists a happy and successful year for 2010.

RE-CERTIFICATION COMPETENCE PROGRAMME

The Podiatrists Board Re-Certification Framework (PBRCF) Competence Programme is now well established and the first audit was successfully completed last year.

The Board was pleased with the results, with only one "not achieved". Four podiatrists received an "excellent" result and nine practitioners received a letter advising of specific areas for improvement in their logbooks in the future.

All other feedback advised a "pass" result and outlined some generic advice of general suggestions for participation in the PBRCF and improvements for logbooks. Due to limited resources the Board was unable to send individual letters to all participants.

In total 52 audits were completed, with 5 exemptions being granted, allowing these practitioners to postpone their audit for a year, due to extenuating circumstances.

This year's audit will follow the same process as 2009, with letters advising those who are to be in the 2010 audit now already posted, reminders being sent in April, and logbooks to be with the Board by the beginning of June. The audit process will take place during June, July and August, with results being advised by late September.

The Board strongly recommends to those who will be part of the 2010 audit, to collate and update their logbooks well in advance of the audit commencement date of 1 June, (if they haven't already done so.)

The Board would like to remind all practitioners of their two yearly PBRCF requirement of completing a Basic Life Support course.

An important further reminder also, for all practitioners to ensure they obtain and attach to their logbook, all "certificates of attendance" at any course/ workshop/ seminar/conference they attend, in which they intend to claim PBRCF credits.

Please note for those practitioners who have been in practice for the past 4 years, you will be required to provide logbooks and records under the earlier

system for the 2006/07 and 2007/08 APC years, and your logbook and documentation (Forms 2, 3 and 4 of your Professional Development Plan) for the 2008/09 and 2009/10 APC years under the current system.

Again, the Board wishes to stress that this is an educational exercise designed to encourage on-going competence and lifelong learning, and not a punitive one at all.

The practitioner competence requirement level set out in the Framework, is to ensure the *minimum* competencies required of practising practitioners under the HPCA Act 2003. This acknowledges the various high level and often invasive clinical activities, described in the various registered scopes of practice for podiatrists.

The Board's intention in setting a minimum annual credit requirement, is to enable practitioners to maintain flexibility in their practices and to complete re-certification programmes, as convenient to them as possible. The Board's primary obligation is to ensure the safety of the public and therefore, that practitioners are competent to practice.

ENDORSED CONTINUING PODIATRIC EDUCATION

Prior Board PBRCF endorsement is **required only** for CCME courses. Courses in the other 3 sections of the PBRCF still need to be of an acceptable standard, and logbook evidence of this will need to be provided (unless voluntarily arranged at some point prior to logbook audit).

An important new development is that organisations and individuals to which the Board grants PBRCF endorsed provider status, will not need to apply to the Board for endorsement of their courses during the period (usually 5 years) for which their endorsed provider status is given. A list of these

organisations will be issued as soon as practically possible.

The Board will produce an initial list of endorsed providers (there is no need for those on the list to formally apply), but the Board is keen to include every interested and eligible party. Therefore those who wish to be included on the endorsed provider list should simply contact the Board Registrar with an expression of interest.

Those organisations or individuals on the initial list who do not wish to have endorsed provider status can contact the Registrar to have their name removed. The list will be updated regularly. The Board reserves the right to remove an organisation or individual from the endorsed provider list, but this will not be done unreasonably.

Endorsed providers will be expected to submit, if required by the Board, detailed information about any course that is offered by them that attracts PBRCF points. Furthermore, given the Board's simple requirement that 2 credits are awarded for the first full hour of PBRCF activity and then 1 point for each subsequent 30 minutes of the same activity, endorsed providers will be trusted to calculate the number of PBRCF points for each PBRCF activity/event that they offer, without reference to the Board.

It will not be necessary for endorsed providers to contact the Board Registrar unless there is real uncertainty about the suitability of an activity or event or of the number of points that should be awarded.

Endorsed providers will only need to issue Certificates of Attendance to those undertaking their courses, for their portfolios. No other evidence will be required. The Board will periodically review endorsed provider's PBRCF credit allocations and courses and will only contact them if it believes they are not sufficiently aligned with its requirements.

Podiatry New Zealand National Conference:

The Board wishes to stress that generally it is not its role to promote specific educational events. However, due to the particularly wide-ranging and varied content of the Podiatry New Zealand National Conference in Wellington this 2-4 September, it would suggest that this event is a very useful opportunity for podiatrists to gain PBRCF credits over the full range of re-certification activities. The Board commends PNZ's commitment to continuing podiatric education, not least in offering bi-national conferences which attempt to meet the varied needs of the majority of the profession.

Cultural awareness/competence:

for those of you looking to undertake a course in this area, the Board wishes to remind practitioners that the Mauri Ora Healthcare & Treaty training course is endorsed by the Board for the PBRCF and is available on line for the cost of \$20. Please refer to www.mauriora.co.nz for further information if you wish.

ANNUAL PRACTISING CERTIFICATE RENEWAL

The Board is very pleased to advise that the APC renewal fee has again not been increased for the 2010-2011 year. This has only been achieved by vigilant efforts by the Board to keep all costs to a minimum. Please return your completed renewal application forms and fees **well before 31 March 2009**. Renewal application forms were posted on 3 February, so most practitioners should have now received them.

Please remember that payments cannot be processed without receipt of the fully completed application form. A reminder also that if you do not intend to practice during the 1 April

2010 to 31 March 2011 period, you must complete and return the Non-practising Declaration attached to your APC renewal form.

The HPCA Act requires that you notify the Board of any address or phone contact changes, and thanks those of you who do so promptly.

MINIMUM COMPETENCIES FOR REGISTRATION

The Board has worked closely with its Australian counterparts, as a member of ANZPAC (Australia and New Zealand Podiatry Accreditation Council) on a new Minimum Competencies document.

The *Australia and New Zealand Podiatry Competency Standards* has been developed, and the consultation process is now underway for the modified version adapted for the New Zealand practising environment.

PRESCRIBING RIGHTS UPDATE

Representatives of the Board had a successful meeting with the Associate Minister of Health Jonathan Coleman, earlier in 2009, to discuss progress of the Board's *Application for Consideration of Extended Prescribing Authority for Registered Podiatrists*.

The Board was advised that the Ministry had to undertake its own consultation process, and the Board looks forward to hearing from the Ministry early this year on the results of their consultation.

The Podiatrists Board Multidisciplinary Podiatrist Prescriber Monitoring Panel has been established in preparation for a successful outcome.

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

The Board is very fortunate to have such knowledgeable and dedicated Board members. There are a number

of new appointments to the Board just announced by the Ministry of Health.

Trevor Tillotson is leaving the Board having completed his 9 year term, it will be a great loss to the Board as it is indebted to him for his many years of dedication and fine leadership as Chair, and his untiring long-term efforts on the extended prescribing rights project.

Merron Wilkes is also leaving the Board, having served 9 years as well, many of them as Deputy Chair. Her valued input and work as Chair of a recent PCC (Professional Conduct Committee) is much appreciated by the Board.

The Board is also sorry to lose Geoff Mariu, a lay member, who resigned earlier in 2009 due to worsening health. His input, especially from the cultural perspective was very helpful. All of these members will be sorely missed and the Board is very grateful to them for their services.

The Board is very pleased to welcome Dr Daniel Poratt and Leigh Shaw to the Board and very much looks forward to working with them. The Board is yet to be advised by the Ministry of the new lay member.

The current Board Chair Michele Garrett, and Deputy Chair Terry Bradshaw, remain in their roles and continue to serve the Board well with their leadership skills and knowledge.

Current membership is:

Michele Garrett (Chair), Auckland

Terry Bradshaw (Deputy Chair),
Wellington

Julianne Jackson, Upper Hutt

Dr Daniel Poratt, Auckland

Leigh Shaw, Tauranga

Wendy Neilson (lay member),
Tauranga

Note: Board members attend meetings and undertake Board activities as independent persons responsible to the Board as a whole. Members are not appointed as representatives of professional organisations.

BOARD MEETINGS

Three meetings were held on 2009, in March, July and November. The next meeting planned is for 12 March this year.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Board is very pleased that it continues to have a very good working relationship and communications with the professional association, Podiatry New Zealand. The CEO was able to address the Board on a number of matters at a Board meeting last year.

The Board also enjoys a good relationship with the sole undergraduate podiatric education provider in New Zealand, the School of Podiatry, AUT University, and a senior staff member has been invited to attend part of the upcoming Board meeting in March.

**HEALTH REGULATORY
AUTHORITIES SECRETARIAT
(HRAS)**

HRAS has been established to provide secretariat services to the Podiatrists Board as well as the Optometrists & Dispensing Opticians Board, Dietitians Board, Chiropractic Board and Osteopathic Council. The new structure which has been in place now since May 2008 is settled and established and working well. The sharing of these services together with office space and equipment, enables efficiencies not otherwise achieved for smaller Boards like the Podiatrists Board.

The Board Chair, Michele Garrett, is currently Chair of the HRAS Board, and all the Boards are grateful to the HRAS Chair (previously from the Dietitians Board) for the extra work and time involved in undertaking this role.

REGISTRATION STATISTICS

Currently practising podiatrists 317

Those with further Scopes of practice:

Podiatric Surgeons	13
Podiatric Radiographic Imagers	6

CONTACTING THE BOARD

For all queries please contact the

Registrar: Annabel Whinam

Email:

registrar@podiatristsboard.org.nz or

annabel@podiatristsboard.org.nz

Phone: 04 4740 706

Fax: 04 4740 709

Postal Address:

PO Box 10-140, The Terrace,
Wellington 6143,
New Zealand

Street Address:

Level 3, Freemason House,
195-201 Willis Street,
Wellington 6011,
New Zealand

Website:

www.podiatristsboard.org.nz