



Te Poari Tiaki Waewae O Aotearoa

ePod

DECEMBER 2011

E - NEWSLETTER OF THE PODIATRISTS BOARD

EMAIL
WEBSITE

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The Board extends warm wishes to all practitioners for this approaching festive season, and wishes you an enjoyable and safe holiday over the New Year break.

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BOARD MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Board membership remains the same apart from the departure of Michele Garrett and the appointment of Fiona Angus in June this year.

Michele had worked tirelessly for the Board for ten years, two of them as Chair and the Board greatly appreciates her valuable input.

Fiona has been welcomed to the Board and her knowledge and experience has proved to be great asset. Terry Bradshaw and Julianne Jackson currently retain the roles of Chair and Deputy.

The Ministry of Health has recently been seeking nominations for the appointment

of two positions that are due to expire, (if not re-appointed) in February 2012. The Board hopes to be advised of these appointments in the new year.

SECRETARIAT CHANGES

The Board office moved in April this year from the Health Regularity Authorities Secretariat (which included the Chiropractic Board, Osteopathic Council, Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians Board and Dietitians Board) to its new location within the Occupational Therapists Board secretariat office. This move has proved to be very successful with significant savings in expense and efficiencies with new synergies being forged.

The new PO Box number and physical address is:
PO Box 10-202, Wellington 6143
Level 8, Berl House, 108 The Terrace.

The Board is also working with HRANZ (Health Regulatory Authorities of NZ), the group of 16 registered health profession Boards and Councils (of which the Podiatrists Board is a member), to look at further shared secretariat options, as requested by Health Workforce New Zealand.

ANNUAL PRACTISING CERTIFICATE (APC) RENEWAL

Please note that the new Board policy now is for zero tolerance of late APC renewal applications. Correctly completed APC renewal applications and fees **MUST be received by 31 March at the very latest.**

Any renewals received after this date will incur the higher fee of \$920. The Board has in previous years allowed for a small period of grace for a few days, but this is no longer the case. **Please remember, if you practice after the 31 March without having renewed your APC, you will be practising illegally and in breach of the HPCA Act.**

For office expediency the staff however would appreciate if APC renewal applications are received in plenty of time well before the 31 March.

If you do not receive your APC renewal application form in the post by mid-February 2012, please download one from the Board's website <http://www.podiatristsboard.org.nz/Site/applicationforms.aspx> and complete, sign and post to the Board.

If you will **not** be continuing to practice, the Board must be notified in writing, by the return of the non-practising declaration or advice by email.

PBRCF

BASIC LIFE SUPPORT requirement

The Board reminds all practitioners to ensure their two yearly PBRCF requirement to complete a Basic Life Support course is maintained. The Board has introduced a new policy that all new registrants applying for an APC, both NZ graduates and overseas trained applicants, are also required to have a current CPR certificate.

PODIATRIC SURGERY

The Board has been working this year on introducing further competence requirements for those registered in the further scope of practice of podiatric surgery and an Advanced Life Support certificate will be required for all APC applications for podiatric surgeons. Further requirements will be advised shortly.

PBRCF AUDIT 2011

The Board has again been pleased with the generally high standard of logbooks, and has only had to follow up with a very few practitioners to complete some further competence requirements.

PBRCF AUDIT 2012

Those practitioners in the 2012 Audit have already been notified. The Board has brought forward the date logbooks are due for audit to the end of March 2012, to coincide with the APC renewal process. Practitioners who do not provide their logbooks by the end of March will not automatically be granted an APC and conditions may be applied. The Board encourages all practitioners, and especially those in the coming Audit, to keep their logbooks up to date. Remember your signed APC applications

each year include acknowledgement that you, as a practitioner, are participating in the PBRCF and fulfilling its requirements.

A further reminder about the Audit will be sent in early February 2012 for logbooks to be forwarded to the Board by the end of March.

PODIATRIC PRESCRIBING

The Board is looking forward to the implementation of the new Medicines Act which it is anticipated will grant podiatrists limited prescribing rights. This has been a long term project for the Board for nearly 2 decades and it is now pleased for Podiatry NZ to take the lead on this project whilst continuing to work together in the interests of podiatric prescribing.

CODE OF PRACTICE

The Board has recently reviewed this document and added a number of links to further related documents in its on-line version available on the Board's website. Further work is planned for next year

AUT

The Board continues to conduct informal collegial audit visits to AUT annually but next year AUT will undergo a full accreditation process. This will be undertaken by ANZPAC (Australia and NZ Podiatry Accreditation Council).

This year the Registrar addressed the 3rd year students and covered some background information about the Board and the requirements for registration and re-certification including the PBRCF.

The Board continues to enjoy a good working relationship with both AUT and PNZ and representatives from these key stakeholders are regular guests at the Board meetings, which are generally held 3 times annually.

PODIATRY BOARD OF AUSTRALIA (PBA)

The Board is also engaging with its new counterpart the PBA, which has replaced the previously 7 individual State Boards. A MoU has been entered into to encourage further liaison and collegiality for working together, and Board representatives attended their meeting in August. This invitation will be reciprocated with representatives from PBA attending the NZ Board meeting in July next year.

UPDATE REGISTER

The HPCA Act requires that you notify the Board of any address change within one month. Please also advise us of any email and phone number changes as well.

CONTACTING THE BOARD

For all queries please contact the

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