



Podiatrists Board of New Zealand

NEWSLETTER

November 2005

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ANNUAL REPORT

Please find enclosed the Board's Annual Report for the 2004/2005 year.

RE-CERTIFICATION COMPETENCE PROGRAMME FRAMEWORK

The Podiatrists Board is pleased to advise that the Re-Certification Competence Programme Framework document has now been finalised and a copy of this is also enclosed for you. It will shortly be available from the Board's website at www.podiatristsboard.org.nz.

The Board would like to thank again all stakeholders who took the time to respond to the Board's consultation document draft and advise it has welcomed the input.

It has taken note of the feedback provided and feels that the final document now represents the feeling present within the profession. While it has not been possible for all of the suggestions to be implemented, the document has undergone major changes and the majority have been introduced into the new framework.

The Board urges you, as a practising podiatrist, to have a thorough look at this document, to assess and plan what re-certification requirements you will choose to complete within the coming two years.

All currently practising podiatrists will receive an Annual Practising Certificate Renewal notice in January 2006, which will include a request to complete a Planning Summary Sheet for the coming two year period. This will enable the Board to establish what continuing competence will be undertaken by practitioners.

An annual 20% non-targeted audit of certified practitioners will require further details of your completed logbook and documentation to be submitted to the Board upon request over the following five year period. You will find further information regarding these requirements in the enclosed Re-Certification Competence Framework document.

It is intended that this document will be reviewed on an annual basis, so there will be ample opportunity for further input in the future.

The Board looks forward to a new era of practitioner competence, working with the profession to fulfil its statutory obligations under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003, in completing the requirements of the Board's Re-certification Competence Programme Framework.

VISITING PODIATRIST EDUCATOR

The Board advises that a proposed new scope of practice of Visiting Podiatrist Educator is to be introduced, pending consultation and gazetting, to allow for registration of short-term visiting lecturers or presenters.

The scope will cover any podiatrist from overseas who is going to be involved in the practical aspects of teaching clinical practice or procedure upon live subjects, whilst visiting New Zealand, and will require application to the Podiatrists Board for registration in this scope.

It is intended that the fee for registration in this scope will be \$50 and the APC fee to practice solely in this scope will be \$50.

The costs for this are below the administrative expenses incurred by the Board, however the Board feels that it is in the interests of the profession that the fee be a nominal one.

PRESCRIBING SUBMISSION

The Podiatrists Board has successfully completed the first stage of its Application for consideration of Extended Prescribing Authority for Registered Podiatrists to the Ministry of Health, New Prescribers Advisory Committee (NPAC). The NPAC has accepted in principle the Board's submission and has given the AUT authority to begin delivery of the post-graduate pharmacology programme in 2006.

The submission was commended by all members and described as "exemplary" by one member of the NPAC. Only a few minor additional pieces of information were requested for further clarification from the Board regarding implementation of audit and on-going competence of practitioners who become Podiatric Prescribers. The Board awaits further contact with the NPAC regarding finalising the details for the implementation of the submission into legislation.

Many hours of hard work by the Board's Prescribing Application Committee (myself and Greg Coyle) and those, specialist contributors, outside the Board have ensured another milestone in the history of podiatric medicine in New Zealand.

Finally, the Board would like to take this opportunity to wish you and yours all the best for the coming festive season and the New Year ahead.

Yours sincerely

Trevor Tillotson
Chairman
Podiatrists Board