

Media release

22 July 2013

Medical Board of Australia sets 2013/14 fees

The Medical Board of Australia has announced the registration fees for medical practitioners for 2013/14.

The Board has set the registration fee at \$695, limiting the increase to less than the national consumer price index (CPI) of 2.5 per cent. The fee covers the registration period for most practitioners of 1 October 2013 to 30 September 2014.

Medical Board of Australia Chair, Dr Joanna Flynn AM, said that limiting the fee increase to CPI reflected the Board's commitment to prudent financial management.

'The Medical Board has set the fee at a level that enables it to meet its regulatory responsibilities under the National Scheme, while striving to be the effective and efficient regulator everyone has a right to expect,' Dr Flynn said.

'Three years experience of implementing the National Scheme has provided more complete information about the actual costs of regulating medicine under the National Law,' she said.

Dr Flynn noted that the Board had seen an increase in notifications (complaints) over the past year.

'The number and complexity of these cases is never going to be entirely predictable. Managing notifications is a major cost for the National Board and we will continue to keep fee levels under close review to balance both prudent financial management and effective notifications management,' she said.

A fee schedule, including the fee arrangements for practitioners whose principal place of practice is NSW, is published on the <u>Board's website</u>.¹ Practitioners with a primary place of practice in NSW will pay \$612.

More detailed information about the National Board's financial operations will be outlined in the Health Profession Agreement between the National Board and AHPRA, to be published on the website. This agreement sets out the services AHPRA will provide to support the National Board to regulate medicine.

The National Registration and Accreditation Scheme is funded by practitioners' registration fees and there is no cross subsidisation between professions.

AHPRA allocates a proportion of its costs to each National Board in the scheme. AHPRA commissioned an independent review of the way it apportioned costs to each Board through a Cost Allocation Study, conducted by independent accountants and business advisers, Moore Stephens. AHPRA has <u>published</u> this study in the interests of transparency.

Board flags launch of registration renewal campaign

¹ NSW has a co-regulatory arrangement and notifications (complaints) about practitioners in NSW are managed by the Health Professional Councils Authority.

AHPRA will launch the registration renewal campaign for medical practitioners this week. More than 87,000 medical practitioners across Australia are due to renew their general, specialist or non-practising registration with the National Board by 30 September 2013.

Practitioners should look for the AHPRA reminders to renew registration as confirmation that online renewal is open.

The Board urged practitioners to check their contact details with AHPRA, including their email address, were up to date to make sure they receive registration renewal reminders and other important information about medical regulation.

If there has been no change to your contact details you do not need to do anything. If you need to update your contact details with AHPRA, visit <u>www.ahpra.gov.au</u>, go to the bottom of the home page and under *Services for practitioners* click on *Update contact details*. Use your user ID supplied by AHPRA and secure password, and follow the prompts.

If you do not have your user ID, complete an online web enquiry form (<u>Australian Health Practitioner</u> <u>Regulation Agency - Make an Enquiry</u>) and select 'Online Services – Practitioner' as the category type.

For more information

- Visit <u>www.medicalboard.gov.au</u>
- For registration enquiries: 1300 419 495 (within Australia) +61 3 8708 9001 (overseas callers)
- For media enquiries: (03) 8708 9200