



Aboriginal and Torres Strait  
Islander Health Practice  
Chinese Medicine  
Chiropractic  
Dental  
Medical  
Medical Radiation Practice  
Nursing and Midwifery  
Occupational Therapy  
Optometry  
Osteopathy  
Pharmacy  
Physiotherapy  
Podiatry  
Psychology

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency

## Media release

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27 September 2012

### Professions due to renew health practitioner registration by 30 November

Thousands of health professionals regulated under the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme) are due to renew their health practitioner registration by 30 November 2012.

Health practitioners due to renew registration with their National Boards work in the following professions: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practice, Chinese medicine, chiropractic, dental practice, medical radiation practice, occupational therapy, optometry, osteopathy, pharmacy, physiotherapy, podiatry and psychology.

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) Chief Executive Officer Martin Fletcher said AHPRA had started sending email reminders to renew on behalf of the National Boards to more than 125,000 practitioners.

'Health practitioners should look out for these reminders to renew as confirmation that online renewal is open,' Mr Fletcher said.

'They should also check that their email contact details provided to AHPRA are up to date.'

To update your contact details held by AHPRA, go online at [www.ahpra.gov.au](http://www.ahpra.gov.au), click online services, use your unique contact number (User ID) and follow the prompts. Your User ID, included in AHPRA correspondence to practitioners, is not your registration number.

If you do not have your User ID, complete an online enquiry form, selecting 'User ID' as the category of enquiry or by calling 1300 419 495.

Mr Fletcher said health practitioners who do not want to renew their registration can simply ignore the reminders from AHPRA or go online to 'opt out' of renewing.

This new online 'opt out' facility will provide the National Boards and AHPRA with better data on the number of health practitioners who choose to opt out of renewing their registration, to distinguish them from individuals who intend to renew, but do not do so on time. Using the 'opt out' service also puts a stop to renewal reminders.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners, Chinese medicine practitioners, medical radiation practitioners and occupational therapists joined the National Scheme in July and not all practitioners are due to renew their registration by 30 November.

'Some health practitioners in these professions renewed their registration with their state or territory regulatory boards prior to joining the National Scheme and may have different renewal dates, depending on in which state or territory they practise,' Mr Fletcher said.

'I urge these health practitioners who may be uncertain about whether they are due to renew to check their registration expiry date on the [National Registers of Practitioners](#) and to visit their [National Board websites](#) for further information.

'The renewal period for these four professions will be progressively aligned until all health practitioners are required to renew annually on 30 November.'

Registered health practitioners are responsible for renewing their registration on time each year and applications received during December will incur an additional late payment fee.

Mr Fletcher reminded the professions they risked not being able to work if they did not renew on time in the National Scheme.

Under the National Law, practitioners who do not renew registration within one month of their registration expiry date must be removed from the National Registers of Practitioners. Their registration will lapse and they will not be able to practise their profession in Australia until a new application for registration is approved.

'Neither AHPRA nor the Board have any discretion about this so our advice is clear: renew online and on time,' Mr Fletcher said.

#### *For more information*

- Visit [www.ahpra.gov.au](http://www.ahpra.gov.au) under *Contact us* to lodge an online enquiry form
- Visit the [National Board websites](#) for specific registration information and FAQs on renewal
- For registration enquiries: 1300 419 495 (within Australia) +61 3 8708 9001 (overseas callers)
- For media enquiries: (03) 8708 9200