



## MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

### THE BOARD MEMBERS ARE:

Mr Lloyd Reed, Dip App Sc (Pod), M Hlth Sc (Pod), Grad Cert (Ed) (Chairperson)

Mr Jason Warnock, Dip App Sc (Chir) (Deputy Chairperson)

Mrs Nerylie Whitecross, Grad Dip Hlth Sc (Hlth Ed), Dip App Sc (Pod)

Mr Trent Johnston, B Hlth Sc (Pod) (Hons), B Sc (HMS)

Mr Ted Howard, OBE, OAM

Ms Gwen Schrieber, M M Hlth, B App Sc (Indig Comm Hlth)

Ms Catherine Rees, B Law, Solicitor

The term of office for the above Members of the Board expires on 29 November 2007.

### FROM THE CHAIR

In recent months the Board has been working hard to progress a number of key initiatives and this newsletter contains information relevant to all podiatrists. The Board has adopted Guidelines for Standards of Practice which sets benchmarks for all of us to follow as we practise our profession. The Board is in the process of developing a Recency of Practice policy, which will determine what is required for podiatrists to obtain registration after a period of absence from the profession. The 'Use of Scheduled Drugs' project enters its next phase and will potentially impact on our scope of practice. We look forward to seeing these initiatives having a positive impact in the future and we welcome input from registrants on all of these issues.

Lloyd Reed

### REGENCY OF PRACTICE

The Recency of Practice Policy will determine the conditions that podiatrists will have to meet for re-registration, if they have been registered but have not been practising for an extended period. It recommends that practitioners should have completed defined continuing professional development activities and practised as a podiatrist within the previous 5 years to be eligible for re-registration. Your comments on this

policy are important and the consultation process is outlined below.

During May the Board expects to release its draft Recency of Practice Policy for comment in a second round of consultation with the profession.

The first stage of the recency of practice consultation process began in February 2005, when all 13 Health Registration Boards released their 'Recency of Practice Discussion Papers'. All major submissions were returned to the Boards by July 2005.

The Board received five submissions to its discussion paper, which were collated and submitted to the Board for its consideration. The results were then used as the basis for the draft Recency of Practice Policy.

The draft policy will be posted on the Board's website so that it is available to the public and profession generally, and in addition a copy will be sent directly to those who submitted responses to the discussion paper.

All registrants, as well as other interested parties with constructive comments are again encouraged to make a submission on this draft policy. All details of how and when to provide comments to the Board will be

included in the release of the policy.

Registrants should periodically check the Board's website [www.podiatryboard.qld.gov.au](http://www.podiatryboard.qld.gov.au) for the release of the policy.

Once the draft is finalised and approved by the Board, it will be referred to Queensland Health for development into a Regulation.

## USE OF SCHEDULED DRUGS

Following the submission to Queensland Health in 2004 of a proposal to extend the current authority for registered podiatrists to access local anaesthetic substances, Queensland Health has conducted a number of reference group meetings representing all stakeholders, including the Board. The reference group has finalised recommendations about the use of a wider range of local anaesthetics by podiatrists and a limited list of restricted drugs for use by podiatrists who are recognised by the Board to practice surgery. These recommendations will be considered by the Minister in due course and the Board will continue to work closely with Queensland Health on this issue.

Registrants who would like to comment on this issue are encouraged to contact Lloyd Reed on phone: 07 3864 5623 or email: [l.reed@qut.edu.au](mailto:l.reed@qut.edu.au) Registrants shall be informed of any changes to the current list of scheduled drugs.

## GUIDELINES ADOPTED BY THE BOARD

- Guidelines for Standards of Practice- available on website: [www.podiatryboard.qld.gov.au](http://www.podiatryboard.qld.gov.au) These Guidelines were developed by the Board and following consultation with key stakeholders were adopted on 3 February 2006.
- Statement on Sexual Relationships between Health Practitioners and their Patients – available on website: [www.podiatryboard.qld.gov.au](http://www.podiatryboard.qld.gov.au)
- Australasian Podiatry Council's Infection Control Guidelines - available on the website: [www.apodc.com.au/infection/net\\_infection\\_control.pdf](http://www.apodc.com.au/infection/net_infection_control.pdf)
- Australasian Podiatry Council's "Clinical

Guidelines for Orthotic Therapy provided by Podiatrists" – available on website: [www.apodc.com.au/apodc/orthotic.pdf](http://www.apodc.com.au/apodc/orthotic.pdf)

The Board has adopted the above guidelines in accordance with its statutory obligations under the Podiatrists Registration Act 2001:

- a. to ensure that health care is delivered by registrants in a professional, safe and competent way; and
- b. to uphold the standards within the profession; and
- c. to maintain public confidence in the profession.

Registrants are reminded that guidelines adopted by the Board are not only to provide guidance to registrants on their practice as a podiatrist, but may be used as evidence in disciplinary proceedings brought by the Board against a registrant.

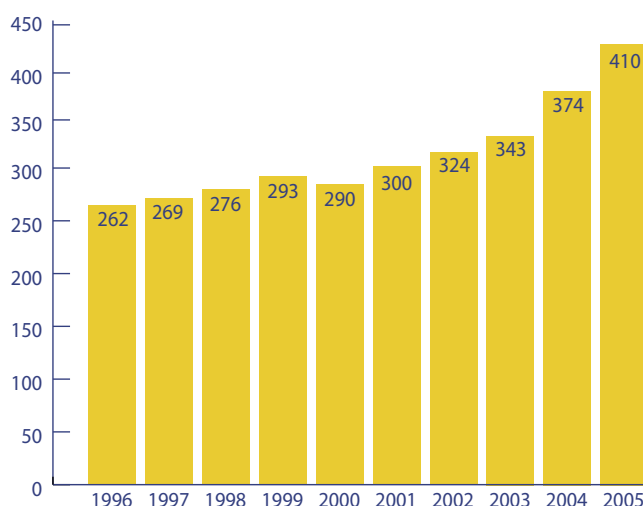
## OTHER BEST PRACTICE GUIDELINES

Registrants are also reminded to comply with the following Best Practice Guidelines:

Type 1 and 2 Diabetes: [www.health.qld.gov.au/publications/best\\_practice](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/publications/best_practice)

Australian Standard AS/NZS 4187: Code of practice for cleaning, disinfecting and sterilising reusable medical and surgical instruments and equipment, and maintenance of associated environments in health care facilities: [www.standards.com.au](http://www.standards.com.au)

## NUMBER OF REGISTERED REGISTRANTS



As at 30 June 2005, there were 410 registered podiatrists, of these 42% were male and 58% female.

### Geographical Distribution of Queensland Registrants

- 78% of registrants gave their addresses on the Register as within South East Queensland (postcodes 4000 to 4571) comprising 45% within Brisbane and 33% elsewhere in South East Queensland.
- 16% of registrants had Queensland addresses outside of South East Queensland.
- 6% of registrants had addresses outside of Queensland.

### INVESTIGATION OF COMPLAINTS UNDER THE HEALTH PRACTITIONERS (PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS) ACT 1999 DURING 2004-2005

#### Investigations Conducted

Investigations open at the beginning of the reporting year	3
Investigations commenced in the reporting year	2
Investigations closed in the reporting year	0
<b>Ongoing investigations</b>	<b>5</b>

#### Nature of Investigations Conducted

Nature of Investigations Conducted	Number
Standard of care	3
Unprofessional/unethical action	2

### ADVERTISING

Registrants are reminded that all advertising of a professional service must comply with the advertising provisions of the Podiatrists Registration Act 2001. A copy of the Act is available on the website: [www.legislation.qld.gov.au](http://www.legislation.qld.gov.au) If registrants are unsure whether their advertising complies with the Act, they should seek their own legal advice.

### IMPLICATION OF PRACTISING WITHOUT REGISTRATION

A podiatrist who fails to pay the renewal fee and continues to practise as if still registered is, in accordance with the legislation, “holding out” and/or “claiming” to be a podiatrist and therefore is in breach of section 121 of the Podiatrists Registration Act 2001. Similarly, advertising as a Podiatrist in the Yellow Pages and in local newspapers prior to being granted registration, is considered “holding out” as a podiatrist and therefore in breach of section 121 of the Act.

Section 121 of the act relates to the use of a “restricted title”. The titles “Podiatrist” and “Chiropodist” are restricted titles under the Act and a person must be registered to use these titles.

If a person does use a restricted title without being registered, they are in breach of section 121 of the Act and, if prosecuted, a maximum penalty of \$75,000 may be imposed.

### RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION

The Application for Renewal of Registration Form must be completed and RECEIVED BY THE OFFICE BY 30 JUNE 2006. The renewal of registration fee for 2006-2007 has been increased by CPI from \$186.00 to \$191.00

REMINDER: Registrants must complete the mandatory disclosure on the renewal of registration form stating whether they suffer from any ongoing medical condition, of which they are aware, or know or ought reasonably to know adversely affects their ability to competently and safely practise the profession. If such a condition is notified to the Board, registration is renewed, but the Board may deal with the matter under Part 7 of the Health Practitioners (Professional Standards) Act 1999.

The renewal form is also available on the Board's website: [www.podiatryboard.qld.gov.au](http://www.podiatryboard.qld.gov.au)



## MANDATORY NOTIFICATION TO THE BOARD

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Registrants are required to notify the Board in the following circumstances:

- Change of name (within 21 days)
- Change of address (within 21 days)
- The withdrawal or cancellation of qualification for registration (within 21 days)
- A business name providing professional services, if the business name is other than the registrant's own name (within 14 days)
- Conviction of an indictable offence (within 30 days)
- If a party to proceedings in court claiming damages or compensation for alleged negligence in the practice of the profession and in which either a judgement has been delivered or in respect of which there has been a settlement of the proceedings or part of the proceedings (within 30 days)
- If you are registered under a corresponding law and your registration, licence or certification under that law is affected by disciplinary action or is otherwise cancelled, suspended or made subject to a condition or an undertaking (within 30 days).

## MOVING INTERSTATE OR TO NEW ZEALAND

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If you are intending to practise in another State, Territory or in New Zealand, please contact the relevant Board for details on applying for registration under the Mutual Recognition or the Trans Tasman Mutual Recognition arrangements.

### **Podiatrists Registration Board of New South Wales**

Phone: 02 9219 0277

Email: [podreg@doh.health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:podreg@doh.health.nsw.gov.au)

[www.podreg.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.podreg.health.nsw.gov.au)

### **Podiatrists Registration Board of Victoria**

Phone: 03 9286 1888

Email: [registrar@podboardvic.vic.gov.au](mailto:registrar@podboardvic.vic.gov.au)

[www.podboardvic.vic.gov.au](http://www.podboardvic.vic.gov.au)

### **Podiatrists Board of Australian Capital Territory**

Phone: 02 6205 1634

### **The Podiatry Board of South Australia**

Phone: 08 8443 9669

Email: [pbsa@saboard.com.au](mailto:pbsa@saboard.com.au)

[www.pbsa.saboard.com.au](http://www.pbsa.saboard.com.au)

### **Podiatrists Registration Board of Western Australia**

Phone: 08 9481 0977

Email: [wclark@mjwa.com.au](mailto:wclark@mjwa.com.au)

[www.podboard.wa.gov.au](http://www.podboard.wa.gov.au)

### **Podiatrists Registration Board of Tasmania**

Phone: 03 6233 2075

Email: [secretary@podregtas.com](mailto:secretary@podregtas.com)

[www.podregtas.com](http://www.podregtas.com)

### **Podiatrists Board of New Zealand**

Phone: 64 4 499 7979

Email: [podiatristsboard@regboards.co.nz](mailto:podiatristsboard@regboards.co.nz)

[www.podiatristsboard.org.nz](http://www.podiatristsboard.org.nz)

## OFFICE CONTACTS

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The Office of Health Practitioner Registration Boards (OHPRB) is open to the public between 9.00 am and 4.00 pm Monday to Friday and is located at:

Level 19, Forestry House

160 Mary Street, BRISBANE QLD 4000

Executive Officer:

Mr J O'Dempsey

Deputy Registrar:

Mr G Connell

Assistant Registrar:

Mrs Pauline Portier

Phone: 61 7 3234 1164 Fax: 61 7 3225 2527

Email: [podiatry@healthregboards.qld.gov.au](mailto:podiatry@healthregboards.qld.gov.au)

Website: [www.podiatryboard.qld.gov.au](http://www.podiatryboard.qld.gov.au)

Correspondence should be addressed to:

Executive Officer

Podiatrists Board of Queensland

GPO Box 2438, BRISBANE QLD 4001

