



Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council

Friday, 12 February 2010 – Melbourne

AGENDA

AUSTRALIAN HEALTH WORKFORCE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL – National Registration and Accreditation

1. Proposal to Add Paramedics to the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme Prior to July 2014 Western Australia
2. Regulation of Unregistered Health Practitioners Victoria for NRAS Subcommittee
3. Adoption of the National Law Governing the New National Regulation Scheme in the Australian Capital Territory South Australia
4. Proposed Minor Technical Amendment of the National Law Victoria for NRAS Subcommittee
5. Update on Professional Registration Standards Development and Proposed Arrangements for Managing Requests to Join the NRAS Scheme Commonwealth

Item Withdrawn



Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council

Meeting of Friday, 12 February 2010 - Melbourne

FINAL DECISIONS AND ACTIONS ARISING

ATTENDANCE

NAME	JURISDICTION	PORTFOLIO
The Hon Daniel Andrews <i>(Chair)</i>	Victoria	Minister for Health
The Hon Nicola Roxon	Commonwealth	Minister for Health and Ageing
The Hon Carmel Tebbutt	New South Wales	Minister for Health
The Hon Paul Lucas	Queensland	Minister for Health
The Hon Dr Kim Hames	Western Australia	Minister for Health
Dr Tony Sherbon	South Australia	For Minister for Health
Mr David Roberts	Tasmania	For Minister for Health
Ms Katy Gallagher	Australian Capital Territory	Minister for Health
The Hon Kon Vatskalis	Northern Territory	Minister for Health
Ms Deborah Roche	New Zealand	For Minister of Health

Apologies: The Hon John Hill (SA)
 The Hon Lara Giddings (Tas)
 The Hon Tony Ryall (NZ)

Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council

National Registration and Accreditation

Item 1 Proposal to Add Paramedics to the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme Prior to July 2014

Ministers:

1. Noted the proposal to include Paramedics in the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (NRAS) prior to July 2014; and
2. Agreed to refer the proposal to the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) for advice and further consideration by AHMAC and AHMC.

ACTIONS ARISING: Queensland/ NRAS Sub-committee

Item 2 Regulation of Unregistered Health Practitioners

Ministers:

1. Noted that:
 - a. The National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for the Health Professions provides legislative based power to provide for protection of the public for the ten health professions included in the Scheme from 2010 and a further four health professions from 2012;
 - b. Successive government reports and inquiries in New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia have highlighted concerns about protection of the public from unregistered health practitioners who engage in such serious misconduct that, if they had been registered, would lose their right to practice; and
 - c. New South Wales has introduced a 'Negative Licensing Scheme' to manage such health practitioners.
2. Agreed that further work be undertaken on Options B and C shown in the agenda paper submitted to the meeting with a view to achieving a nationally consistent approach. A report is to be made back to AHWMC for further consideration including on the possibility of merging the implications of Options B and C if required.
 - *Option B: States and Territories develop their own legislative and other responses within a nationally agreed framework for unregistered health practitioners; and*
 - *Option C: a nationally consistent legislative model is developed in relation to Unregistered Health Practitioners.*
3. Agreed that a national consultation exercise be undertaken that asks stakeholders to consider Options B and C together with the associated cost implications for each.

ACTIONS ARISING: Victoria – Queensland/ NRAS Sub-committee

Item 3 Adoption of the National Law Governing the New National Regulation Scheme in the Australian Capital Territory

Ministers noted that the Australian Capital Territory's Bill C introduced into parliament amends the National Law as passed by the Queensland parliament.

ACTIONS ARISING: Nil specific from meeting

Item 4 Proposed Minor Technical Amendment of the National Law

Ministers:

1. Agreed that a minor technical amendment be made to the National Law to correct a minor drafting error;
2. Agreed a minor technical amendment be made to clarify the intent that a Health Complaints Entity is not required to divulge privileged conciliation information to a National Board; and
3. Agreed, in accordance with the process set out in the Intergovernmental Agreement for the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme, that Queensland as host jurisdiction, progress the minor technical amendments through Queensland parliament, with Western Australia incorporating the amendments in its corresponding National Law (Bill C) which is currently being drafted.

ACTIONS ARISING: Queensland/ NRAS Sub-committee – Western Australia

Item 5 Update on Professional Registration Standards Development and Proposed Arrangements for Managing Requests to Join the NRAS Scheme

Item Withdrawn.



Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council

Thursday, 22 April 2010 - Perth

AGENDA

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Proposal to COAG on Appointments to the Australian Health Workforce Advisory Council | Qld/ for NRAS Sub-Committee |
| 2. Accreditation Standards for Nursing and Midwifery | VIC/ NSW/ NT for NRAS Sub-Committee |
| 3. Nursing and Midwifery - Assignment of Accreditation Function | Qld/ for AHPRA and NRAS Sub-Committee |
| 4. Dental Board's Scope of Practice Standard | Qld/ for NRAS Sub-Committee |



Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council

FINAL DECISIONS AND ACTIONS ARISING

Perth
Thursday, 22 April 2010

ATTENDANCE

NAME	JURISDICTION	PORTFOLIO
The Hon John Hill <i>(Chair)</i>	South Australia	Minister for Health
The Hon Nicola Roxon Mr Ken Douglas	Commonwealth	Minister for Health and Ageing For Minister for Veterans' Affairs
The Hon Carmel Tebbutt	New South Wales	Minister for Health
The Hon Daniel Andrews	Victoria	Minister for Health
Mr Murray Watt MP	Queensland	For Minister for Health
The Hon Dr Kim Hames	Western Australia	Minister for Health
The Hon Michelle O'Byrne	Tasmania	Minister for Health
Ms Katy Gallagher <i>Via teleconference</i>	Australian Capital Territory	Minister for Health
The Hon Kon Vatskalis	Northern Territory	Minister for Health

Apologies: The Hon Paul Lucas (Queensland)
 The Hon Tony Ryall (New Zealand)

Item 1: Proposal to COAG on Appointments to the Australian Health Workforce Advisory Council (AHWAC)

Ministers:

1. Noted that, consistent with the inter-government agreement for the establishment of the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme, and the Health Practitioner Regulation (Administrative Arrangements) National Law Act 2008, appointments to the seven person Australian Health Workforce Advisory Council (AHWAC) are to be made by the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) by June 2010;
2. Noted that on 4 March 2010, CEOs agreed to submit a full list of nominees to Ministers for consideration at the April 2010 AHMC meeting, and to recommend three nominees from which a Chair might be selected, and six other nominees for appointments as Members;
3. Noted that the list of recommended nominations (in Recommendations 4 and 5 below) take account of:
 - a. The National Law Requirement that the AHWAC consist of seven Members, three of which are to be persons who have expertise in health, or education and training, or both; and that the Chair is not a registered health practitioner and has not been registered as a health practitioner within the last five years;
 - b. The need for an appropriate skills mix across the seven positions and sound geographical and gender representation; and
 - c. The need for alternative nominees with similar skills mix should the priority nominee be unavailable or unable to accept the nomination;
4. Agreed that Professor Denise Bradley be recommended to COAG as Chair of AHWAC subject to Professor Bradley accepting. If Professor Bradley does not accept the nomination of Chair, the second preferred nominee, Professor Loane Skene will be approached and Professor Bradley will be the preferred Business / Legal nominee;
5. Agreed that the following six nominees be recommended to COAG as the six appointments to membership of the AHWAC:

SKILL SET	NOMINEE
BUSINESS / LEGAL	1. PROF LOANE SKENE
MEDICAL / HEALTH DELIVERY	2. DR MARK WENITONG
MEDICAL / EDUCATION & TRAINING	3. PROF LOUIS LANDAU
ALLIED HEALTH	4. PROF HAL SWERISSEN
NURSING	5. PROF MARY FITZGERALD
PUBLIC HEALTH	6. MR MIKE WALLACE

6. Agreed that the nominations decided by Ministers be presented to COAG Out-of-Session, and to facilitate this, that the Chair of AHWMC write to the Prime Minister (as Chair of COAG) **Attachment 1** to these Decisions seeking his agreement for Out-of-Session consideration; and

7. Noted the biographical information of the recommended nominees and of the full list of nominees.

***ACTIONS ARISING: Chair/ Secretariat
Victoria - Queensland/ NRAS Subcommittee/ South Australia***

Item 2: Consideration of Accreditation Standards Issued by the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia

Ministers:

1. Noted that, on 25 February 2010, the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) approved accreditation standards for nursing and midwifery courses leading to registration that are intended to take full effect from 1 July 2012 (after a transition period);
2. Noted that the only concerns with the standards are with the following three specific requirements that will impact negatively on workforce provision:
 - 2.1. That providers of courses leading to registration as a registered (Division 1) nurse must be a university;
 - 2.2. That a diploma will be the entry requirement for the enrolled (Division 2) nursing profession; and
 - 2.3. That post-graduate midwifery courses must be of a minimum 18 months in duration;
3. Noted that the effect of 2.1 would be that accreditation approval could no longer be given (after a transition period) to other higher education providers of bachelor of nursing courses, including 3 current providers in Victoria, New South Wales and Northern Territory that provide places for over 200 new nursing students each year;
4. Noted that 2.1 therefore, directly impacts on the recruitment and supply of health practitioners in at least three jurisdictions and has ongoing impacts for all jurisdictions;
5. Noted advice from education portfolio officials that 2.1 runs counter to agreed protocols for the approval of higher education courses that were agreed by the (-then) MCEETYA in 2007 and the principles in relation to health professions accreditation agreed by COAG in March 2008;
6. Noted that the standards are largely unchanged from the version on which the governance committee expressed significant concerns in writing in November 2009;
7. Noted that, pursuant to section 7(4) of the Health Practitioner Regulation (administrative arrangements) national law act 2008 (Queensland), the Ministerial Council may give a national board a direction in relation to an accreditation standard, only if:
 - 7.1. In the Council's opinion, the proposed accreditation standard or amendment will have a substantive and negative impact on the recruitment of health practitioners; and

- 7.2. The Council has first given consideration to the potential impact of the Council's direction on the quality and safety of health care; and
8. Agreed to refer points 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 above for further advice from AHMAC, HWA and the Ministerial Council for Tertiary Education and Employment for report by 31 May 2010. This referral also will include reference to the issues raised at points 4 and 5 above.

***ACTIONS ARISING: Victoria - Queensland/ NRAS Subcommittee
Northern Territory
AHPRA***

Item 3: Nursing and Midwifery – Assignment of Accreditation Function

Ministers:

1. Noted the revised proposal from the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council (ANMC) at Attachment 1 of the agenda paper;
2. Noted the issues for discussion as advised by the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) and the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA);
3. Assigned the accreditation function under the *Health Practitioner Regulation (administrative arrangements) National Law Act 2008 (QLD)* ("Act A") Section 9, to a restructured ANMC for a period of three years with effect from 1 July 2010 in line with assignments previously made for all other National Boards;
4. Noted that there will be oversight by the NMBA and AHPRA to finalise a workable business and staffing model within available resources including ongoing consideration of the reconstituted ANMC against an agreed framework for quality of accreditation services;
5. Agreed that the AHWMC Chair sign the letter at **Attachment 2** to these Decisions advising the ANMC of this assignment (*Note: Letter sent on 22 April 2010*); and
6. Agreed to request regular reports from the ANMC / AHPRA on the implementation process.

***ACTIONS ARISING: Chair/ Secretariat
Victoria - Queensland/ NRAS Subcommittee
AHPRA***

Item 4 Dental Board's Scope of Practice Standard

Ministers:

1. Noted that on 31 March 2010, the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council (AHWMC) decided to defer consideration of the scope of Practice Registration Standard submitted by the Dental Board of Australia (DBA) to the scheduled AHWMC meeting of 22 April 2010;
2. Noted that at the sixth meeting of the DBA on 26 March 2010, the Board decided to issue a communiqué to clarify that the proposed standard is drafted to

reflect the current scope of practice which exists in Australia, and that Oral Health Therapists, Dental Therapists and Dental Hygienists could meet the supervision requirements through ensuring that a structured professional relationship exists with a dentist who could be consulted as necessary via any means;

3. Agreed that DBA's Scope of Practice Standard as proposed be approved, retaining the words that Dental Therapists and Dental Hygienists 'are not independent practitioners', noting the DBA has released a clarifying statement that addresses concerns about interpretation of the standard;
4. Agreed:
 - (a) to ask the DBA to review the standard in 12 to 18 months time to assess any impact on the Scope of Practice of Dental Therapists and Dental Hygienists and potentially revisit the existing Scope of Practice; and
 - (b) that an AHMAC Working Party be established to review the role and Scope of Practice of Therapists and Hygienists prior to the Review of the Standards;
5. Noted that the standard approved at 3 above was in accordance with the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (2009) and would take effect on 1 July 2010 to coincide with the full operation of the National Scheme; and
6. Agreed that a letter to the DBA be prepared as a priority to communicate the above resolution of the AHWMC, to comply with the requirements of the National Law, and that this letter be signed by the Chair of the AHWMC. (*Note: Letter sent on 22 April 2010 – See **Attachment 3** to these Decisions*).

***ACTIONS ARISING: Victoria - Queensland/ NRAS Subcommittee
Chair/ Secretariat
AHPRA***

ITEM 5 OTHER BUSINESS

Item 5.1 Physiotherapist and Psychologist Specialties

Ministers:

1. Noted that there is continuing concern from Physiotherapists and Psychologists in most jurisdictions about the need for reconsideration of the recognition of specialties and sub-specialties in the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme; and
2. Agreed that National Boards be advised of these concerns for advice back to the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council, pending the development of national criteria for assessing such proposals.

***ACTIONS ARISING: Victoria - Queensland/ NRAS Subcommittee
AHPRA***

Item 5.2 Registration Fees

Ministers noted the proposed fees under the National Registration Accreditation Scheme. Ministers sought further information and clarification on the methodologies and cost basis used to determine the proposed fees by 31 May 2010.

Ministers agreed that this advice would be considered at a future meeting.

***ACTIONS ARISING: Victoria - Queensland/ NRAS Subcommittee
AHPRA
Secretariat***

AHWMC Conference Communiqué

See **Attachment 4**



Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council

Secretariat
Post Office Box 344
RUNDLE MALL SA 5000
Telephone: (08) 8226 6191
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E-Mail: secretariat@hcdsmc.sa.gov.au

22 April 2010

The Hon Kevin Rudd MP
Prime Minister
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Prime Minister

In line with the provisions of the Inter-government Agreement for the establishment of the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme, and in accordance with the *Health Practitioner Regulation (Administrative Arrangements) National Law Act 2008*, I am writing to seek the approval of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) to the initial appointment of members to the Australian Health Workforce Advisory Council (AHWAC).

The *Health Practitioner Regulation (Administrative Arrangements) National Law Act 2008* (section 17) provides for the appointment and membership of the AHWAC by COAG as follows:

- (1) the Advisory Council is to consist of seven members;
- (2) the first members of the Advisory Council are to be appointed by COAG;
- (3) after that, members of the Advisory Council are to be appointed by the Ministerial Council;
- (4) one of the members of the Advisory Council is to be appointed as Chairperson, being a person who is not a registered health practitioner and who has not been a registered health practitioner within the last five years, and
- (5) at least three of the other members of the Advisory Council are to be persons who have expertise in health or education and training, or both.

In addition, the Inter-governmental Agreement and the National Law provides that the initial appointment will be for a period not exceeding three years with membership and terms of reference to be reviewed by the Ministerial Council after that date.

The functions of the AHWAC as set out in the legislation are to provide independent advice to the Ministerial Council about the following:

- (a) any matter relating to the scheme that is referred to it by the Ministerial Council
- (b) at the request of the Ministerial Council, any matter relating to the scheme on which the Ministerial Council has been unable to reach a decision, and

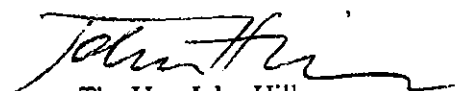
**RELEASED UNDER THE
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1982 (Cth)**

- (c) any other matter relating to the national registration and accreditation scheme that it considers appropriate.

At a meeting of the Australian Health Ministers' Conference on 22 April 2010, Health Ministers considered a number of proposed nominees and agreed to recommend to COAG the appointment of the attached list of nominees to membership of the AHWAC.

Against this background, I am requesting that this matter be raised with COAG with a view to seeking its out of session agreement to the appointment of these Members to the Advisory Council. Appointments to AHWAC will need to be made by COAG by no later than June 2010.

Yours sincerely



The Hon John Hill
Chair, Australian Health Ministers' Conference
Minister for Health, South Australia



Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council

NOMINEES PROPOSED FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE AUSTRALIAN HEALTH WORKFORCE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Membership of the Australian Health Workforce Advisory Council comprises seven members including the Chair

Nominee for Appointment as Chair	
Professor Denise Bradley	Emeritus Professor, University of South Australia
Nominees for Appointment as Members	
Professor Loane Skene	Pro Vice-Chancellor and Council Member, University of Melbourne
Dr Mark Wenitong	Senior Medical Officer at Apunipima Cape York Health Council
Professor Louis Landau	Emeritus Professor, Centre for Genetic Epidemiology & Biostatistics, University of Western Australia
Professor Hal Swerissen	Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences and Professor of Public Health, La Trobe University
Professor Mary Fitzgerald	Professor of Nursing Practice Development, Royal Hobart Hospital and the School of Nursing and Midwifery, University of Tasmania
Mr Mike Wallace	Chief Executive, Sydney South West Area Health Service

22 April 2010



Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council

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E-Mail: secretariat@hcdsmc.sa.gov.au

22 April 2010

Adjunct Associate Professor Moira Lavery
Chairperson
Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council
PO Box 873
DICKSON ACT 2602

Dear Adjunct Associate Professor Lavery,

Assignment of accreditation functions under the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for Health Professions

As you are aware, the assignment of accreditation functions for nursing and midwifery to be implemented under the national scheme has been considered following your proposal of February 2010.

I am pleased to be able to advise you that the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council (the Ministerial Council) has decided that a significantly restructured Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council (ANMC) be assigned the accreditation functions for the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA).

This assignment of accreditation functions is a transitional measure and will be for a period of three years from 1 July 2010. It is subject to the requirement to meet standards and criteria developed by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) for establishment, governance and operation of external accreditation bodies.

In assigning these national accreditation functions to the reconstituted ANMC, it is understood that there is a requirement for the ANMC to work collaboratively with the AHPRA and the NMBA in order to develop an effective and efficient model of operation for the expanded accreditation role to be taken on by ANMC. I note that the majority of staff currently undertaking nursing and midwifery accreditation functions will transition to be AHPRA staff from 1 July 2010.

**RELEASED UNDER THE
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1982 (Cth)**

It is understood that the ANMC will undertake a substantial restructuring and reconstitution over a transitional period commencing upon notification of this assignment. The Ministerial Council has requested the NMBA and AHPRA provide oversight of the restructuring of the ANMC in transitioning to become the assigned accreditation authority for the nursing and midwifery professions. The Ministerial Council would also ask to receive regular reports on the implementation of this restructure.

I would appreciate formal confirmation that your organisation is accepting this assignment and look forward to working with you in the development of the new scheme.

Yours sincerely



The Hon John Hill

Chair, Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council

Minister for Health, South Australia



Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council

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22 April 2010

Dr John Lockwood
Chair
Dental Board of Australia
PO Box 16085
Collins Street West
MELBOURNE VIC 8007

Dear Dr Lockwood

Thank you for submitting the Dental Board's Scope of Practice Standard on 1 March 2010 for approval. As you know, at our meeting of 31 March 2010, the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council (the Ministerial Council) agreed to further consider the proposed standard on 22 April 2010.

The Ministerial Council notes that the Board released a communique on 26 March 2010 advising that the proposed standard is drafted to reflect the current scope of practice which exists in Australia, and that oral health therapists, dental therapists and dental hygienists could meet the supervision requirements through ensuring that a structured professional relationship exists with a dentist who could be consulted as necessary via any means.

It is acknowledged that the Board released this statement to address concerns about interpretation of the standard, particularly in relation to the supervision requirements and how they might operate in rural and remote areas.

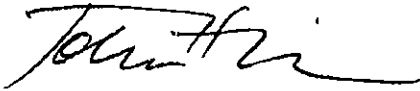
Pursuant to section 12 of the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law* (2009) (the National Law), as enacted by participating jurisdictions, the Ministerial Council has decided to approve the scope of practice standard submitted by the Board – with the approval taking effect on 1 July 2010 to coincide with the commencement of the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme.

However, the Ministerial Council requests that the Board review this standard 12 to 18 months after it takes effect to assess whether the approved standard has had any unintended and negative impacts on the scope of practice of oral health therapists, dental therapists, and dental hygienists. Ministers have also agreed that an AHMAC working party is to be established to review the roles and scope of practice of therapists and hygienists, prior to the Board review of the approved scope of practice standard.

**RELEASED UNDER THE
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1982 (Cth)**

We trust that the Ministerial Council's decision as outlined in this letter will assist the Board to implement the proposal in the lead-up to the national scheme's full commencement on 1 July 2010.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Hill', with a stylized flourish at the end.

The Hon John Hill
Chair, Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council
Minister for Health, South Australia



Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council

COMMUNIQUÉ – 22 April 2010

The Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council (the AHWMC) is pleased to announce that it has today made the following decisions in relation to the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for health practitioners (the national scheme).

Nursing and midwifery accreditation

Ministers are pleased to appoint a restructured Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council (ANMC) to exercise accreditation functions under the national scheme for the nursing and midwifery professions. This important decision is made pursuant to section 9 of the *Health Practitioner Regulation (Administrative Arrangements) National Law Act 2008*.

This appointment is for a period of 3 years from 1 July 2010, which is in line with assignments previously made for the other nine health professions in the national scheme.

In making this decision, Ministers note that the current ANMC is in the process of undertaking a major governance and organisational restructure in order to place the organisation in the best position to independently and effectively deliver accreditation functions for the nursing and midwifery professions in Australia. Ministers asked to receive regular reports on implementation of this restructure.

Dental Board of Australia – scope of practice registration standard

Ministers are also pleased to announce the decision to approve the Dental Board of Australia's scope of practice standard.

In making this decision, Ministers noted the release of the Dental Board's 26 March 2010 Meeting Communiqué. The communiqué clarifies that the Standard is drafted to reflect the current scope of practice which exists in Australia and that oral health therapists, dental therapists, and dental hygienists will be able to meet the supervision requirements of the standard through ensuring that a structured professional relationship exists with a dentist who can be consulted as necessary and via any means.

In addition, Ministers have asked the Dental Board to review the approved standard 12 to 18 months after it takes effect, to formally assess whether the approved standard has had any unintended and negative impacts on the scope of practice of oral health therapists, dental therapists, and dental hygienists.

Ministers have also agreed that an AHMAC working party is to be established to review the roles and scope of practice of therapists and hygienists prior to the Board review of the approved scope of practice standard.

Ministers' approval of the standard is in accordance with the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (2009)* and is made today to assist the Dental Board to implement the proposal in the lead-up to the national scheme's commencement. As such, the approved scope of practice standard will not come into force until the full commencement of the national scheme on 1 July 2010.

The Dental Board's communiqué clarifying the supervision requirements and how they might operate in rural and remote areas and the AHWMC approved scope of practice standard can be accessed from the Board's website - at www.dentalboard.gov.au

On 31 March 2010, Ministers' decided to approve a number of national health practitioner registration standards and related proposals, to take effect on 1 July 2010, as recommended by the ten National Boards established under the National Scheme. The list of approved registration standards and related proposals has been updated to include today's decision, and is attached to this communiqué.

Media Contact: SA Health Media Unit, telephone 08 8226 6488

**APPROVED NATIONAL HEALTH PRACTITIONER REGISTRATION
STANDARDS – UPDATED 22 APRIL 2010**

National Board	Approved registration standards & related proposals to take effect on 1/07/2010
Chiropractic Board of Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory registration standards ♦
Dental Board of Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory registration standards • Scope of practice registration standard • Area of Practice endorsement (conscious sedation) • Specialist registration
Medical Board of Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory registration standards ♦ • Standard for limited registration (area of need) • Standard for limited registration (postgraduate training or supervised practice) • Specialist registration
Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory registration standards ♦ • Endorsement for nurse practitioners registration standard • Endorsement for scheduled medicines (Registered Nurses) for Rural and Isolated Practice
Optometry Board of Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory registration standards ♦ • Endorsement for scheduled medicines (optometrists) – topical medicines for the treatment of conditions of the eye
Osteopathy Board of Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory registration standards ♦
Pharmacy Board of Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory registration standards ♦ (excluding professional indemnity insurance) • Examinations for general registration standard • Supervised practice standard
Physiotherapy Board of Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory registration standards ♦
Podiatry Board of Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory registration standards ♦ • Specialist registration • Endorsement for scheduled medicines
Psychology Board of Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory registration standards ♦ • General registration standard • Provisional registration standard • Area of practice endorsement – 7 areas, namely: clinical psychology, counselling psychology, forensic psychology, clinical neuropsychology, organisational psychology, sport and exercise psychology, and educational and developmental psychology

♦ **Note:** 'Mandatory registration standards' includes (in all cases), registration standards for:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criminal history 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing Professional Development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recency of Practice
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional Indemnity Insurance 	