



Chiropractic  
Dental  
Medical  
Nursing and Midwifery  
Optometry

Osteopathy  
Pharmacy  
Physiotherapy  
Podiatry  
Psychology

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency

## Media release

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4 February 2011

### AHPRA reassures Queensland practitioners

The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) today moved to reassure Queensland health practitioners affected by Cyclone Yasi that it was on hand to respond to any registration concerns.

The registration of most Queensland health practitioners is **not** due for renewal now.

“Along with all Australians, we extend our sympathy to all Queenslanders affected by the cyclone. AHPRA has put a system in place to hand-manage and escalate any registration concerns from cyclone affected practitioners,” AHPRA CEO Martin Fletcher said.

Any registered health practitioner in Queensland affected by the cyclone who has concerns about their registration should email AHPRA on [yasi@ahpra.gov.au](mailto:yasi@ahpra.gov.au) and their issue will be escalated and addressed immediately.

Mr Fletcher said he would be surprised if there were many practitioners whose registration renewal was affected by the cyclone.

“Most Queensland practitioners are not due to renew their registration now and have no cause for concern. The focus of any cyclone affected practitioners does not need to be distracted from their primary concern which is looking after their family, friends and local community,” Mr Fletcher said.

Most Queensland medical practitioners renewed their registration by 30 June 2010 and will be due to renew again in June 2011 for a period of 15 months to bring them into the new national renewal cycle for Australian medical practitioners of 30 September from 2012.

Most Queensland nurses and midwives renewed their registration by 30 June 2010 and will renew again in June 2011 for 11 months to bring them in line with the new national renewal cycle for nurses and midwives from May 2012.

Most Queensland practitioners for the remaining eight registered health professions renewed their registration by 30 November 2010 for 12 months in line with the November renewal date for the other eight registered professions.

A very small number of Queensland-based health practitioners, many of whom were registered in more than one state before July 2010, were due to renew their registration in the last month.

AHPRA is working closely with Queensland Health to ensure that any registration issues related to health practitioners able to work in cyclone affected communities are prioritised and managed swiftly.

AHPRA today announced increased services to registrants. It increased the operating hours of its call centre to 8am – 6pm and has published on its website the ‘fast track’ application form for practitioners whose registration has lapsed and who under the National Law must now reapply for registration. The “fast

track” is not open to practitioners who are applying to register for the first time, only to practitioners who did not renew their registration on time.

*For more information*

- Visit [www.ahpra.gov.au](http://www.ahpra.gov.au) under *Contact us* to lodge an online enquiry form
- For registration enquiries: 1300 419 495 (within Australia) +61 7 3666 4911 (overseas callers)
- For media enquiries: (03) 8708 9200