



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

Australasian College of Podiatric Surgeons response

1. Are the draft guidelines necessary?

Yes, the guidelines are necessary. Podiatric surgeons engage in procedures involving the cutting or fixation of bones and open surgical procedures where there is the possibility of bone fragments and/or bone spicules, mechanical drilling of bone and the use of sharp instruments. Although the hands of the podiatric surgeon are visible at all times the fingers may not be and injury by sharp instruments and/or tissues is possible. In addition, any minimal invasive procedures do have the potential to escalate to open procedures.

2. Is the content of the draft guidelines helpful, clear and relevant?

The guidelines are comprehensive but clear and relevant.

3. Is there any content that needs to be changed, added or deleted in the draft guidelines?

No content changes were identified.

4. Do you agree with the proposal that the Boards expect registered health practitioners and students to comply with CDNA guidelines? That includes testing requirements set in the CDNA guidelines.

The Australasian College of Podiatric Surgeons (ACPS) supports the proposal of the draft guidelines for registered podiatric surgeons and students in relation to blood borne viruses and the use of CDNA Australian National Guidelines to underpin this. This includes surgeons and students testing once every three years and the declaration that they are complying with the CDNS guidelines when renewing their annual registration with the Podiatry board. The ACPS favours confidentiality and that the identity of a health care worker to a patient not be necessary and the right to confidentiality should be respected.

5. Do you have any other comments on the draft guidelines?

No other comments.