

**THE PODIATRISTS REGISTRATION BOARD OF  
TASMANIA  
NEWSLETTER      JUNE 2007**

**Professional Indemnity Insurance**

As advised in our November 2006 circular, the Board has decided to require podiatrists to provide evidence of arrangements when renewing their policy. As most policies are for a financial year this means that podiatrists should provide evidence of professional indemnity insurance when they renew their policy in May/June 2007.

**It would be appreciated if this evidence could be provided to this office by 31 July 2007. Information may be forwarded by email, facsimile or post.**

This evidence would usually be in the form of a copy of your insurance policy schedule and receipt of payment or a letter from your employer advising that you are included in your employer's insurance arrangements.

All practising podiatrists are required to provide these details. Non-practising podiatrists who wish to continue registration should provide a statement outlining the reasons for seeking an exemption from the requirement to hold professional indemnity insurance.

**Occupational Health and Safety**

The Podiatrists Board of the ACT has developed an excellent Occupational Health and Safety Guide for Podiatrists. The Tasmanian Board has agreed that these Guidelines are an appropriate outline of requirements in this area and recommends that all podiatrists obtain a copy. These can be obtained at the following link:  
<http://www.health.act.gov.au/healthregboards>

**National Registration and Accreditation Scheme**

The Council of Australian Governments (COAG), at its April 2007 meeting agreed on the arrangements for a new national system for the registration of health professionals and the accreditation of their training and education programs for implementation by July 2008.

COAG considers that *the new scheme will deliver many benefits to the Australian community including health consumers. National standards in each profession will mean stronger safety guarantees for the community. Patients will know that wherever the health professional is from, they are registered against the same, high-quality national professional standards.....national registration will also mean that doctors, nurses and other health professionals will be able to practise across State and Territory borders without having to re-register*".

**Australian and New Zealand Council of Podiatry Registration Boards (ANZCPRB)**

The ANZCPRB has met twice this year with the Tasmanian Board hosting the most recent meeting in Hobart in May 2007.

The Council has continued to provide information to the Australian Government on the implementation of a national registration and accreditation scheme. The structure of the new system is still being developed – it is expected that there will be national boards for each profession and a national management board. There is likely to be offices established in each state and territory.

Other matters in the ANZCPRB work program include accreditation of Australian and New Zealand under graduate courses and assessment of practitioners with an extended period of not practising.

### **Board Website**

The Board's website has information on the role and function of the Board, registration requirements, policies and publications. Copies of registration forms may be obtained directly from the site.

The address is [www.podregtas.com](http://www.podregtas.com)

### **Applications for Registration**

A reminder that all supporting documentation must accompany applications for registration. This includes a current national police check which may take several weeks to obtain. Where locum appointments are being arranged, podiatrists should ensure that sufficient time is allowed for obtaining this documentation.

### **Use of Scheduled Drugs**

A joint Board/Australian Podiatry Association Tasmania working party has been established to develop a proposal for expanded access to scheduled drugs by podiatrists. The Board's nominee is Toni Nash and the Association nominees are Sue McTurk and Scott Leslie.

### **Members of the Board**

Current members of the Board are:

<b>Podiatrists</b>	<b>Expiring</b>
Janice Mason (Chair)	9 March 2009
David McKay	9 March 2009
Toni Nash	10 April 2008

### **Lay Persons**

Sarah Piggott	10 April 2008
Kay Gunn	9 March 2009

### **Board Contact Details**

Secretary: Tony Sansom  
Postal Address: PO Box 240 Claremont  
Phone 03 62491377  
Fax: 03 62494292  
Email: [secretary@podregtas.com](mailto:secretary@podregtas.com)