

**THE PODIATRISTS REGISTRATION BOARD OF  
TASMANIA  
NEWSLETTER      NOVEMBER 2008**

**Renewal of Registration Year ending 31 December 2009**

Registered podiatrists are invited to renew their registration for the year ending 31 December 2009. If you wish to obtain a practising certificate for this year please complete the details on the enclosed application form and return with the prescribed fee of \$300. Please note that no GST is included as the fees have been exempted under section 81 of *A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999*.

There are several issues that podiatrists will need to consider when renewing registration for next year.

**Non Practising Podiatrists**

Should any registered podiatrists not have practised podiatry within the past five (5) years, the Board is required to issue a certificate of registration only if they meet current requirements for registration. If you fall into this category and wish to continue registration, you will need to provide further information to enable the Board to assess whether you meet these requirements.

The requirements of the Board are outlined in its Recency of Practice Policy (2/2006). A copy of the policy can be obtained from the website. <http://www.podregtas.com/boardpolicies.htm>

**Due Date and Fine for Late Payment**

The due date for receipt of all applications for renewal is 31 December 2008. Podiatrists who do not submit all the required details by this date will incur a late fee of \$60.00. Unfinancial podiatrists as at 31 January 2009 will be removed from the register as prescribed in section 36 (8) of the Podiatrists Registration Act.

Should a podiatrist be removed for this reason they may apply for restoration to the Register (the prescribed restoration fee, in addition to the annual renewal fee is \$150).

**Professional Indemnity Insurance**

Podiatrists need to provide evidence of professional indemnity cover in order to obtain a certificate of registration. As podiatrists have already provided this documentation following the request from the Board earlier this year, you will not be required to provide this documentation unless specifically requested.

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.

**Steriliser Maintenance and Calibration**

Thank you to all podiatrists who have provided a copy of the calibration certificate in respect of the steriliser(s) used for the sterilisation of instruments. Issuing of practising certificates for the 2009 will be conditional on provision of this information – podiatrists where this is outstanding have been notified.

**National Registration and Accreditation Scheme**

The Australian Government, along with state and territory governments have signed an intergovernmental agreement to establish a single national registration and accreditation scheme from 1 July 2010. Podiatry has now been included in this scheme and the project has progressed rapidly.

Health Ministers believe that the new arrangement will help health professionals move around the country more easily, reduce red tape, provide greater safeguards for the public and promote a more flexible, responsive and sustainable health workforce.

A substantial implementation team has established and consultation has been widespread at national and local levels. A series of consultation papers have been released seeking feedback on the desirable arrangements in areas such as complaints handling, information management and accreditation.

Implementation is being overseen by the Health Workforce Principal Committee. Further information about the scheme is available at [www.nhwt.gov.au/natregasp](http://www.nhwt.gov.au/natregasp)

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

The ANZCPRB is now operational and is meeting regularly, having developed a work program. A representative of the Board attends meetings of this Council.

### **Australian and New Zealand Podiatry Accreditation Council (ANZPAC)**

ANZPAC is an independent organisation to assess and accredit podiatric education programs that provide eligibility for registration as a podiatrist in Australia and New Zealand.

ANZPAC and the Australasian Podiatry Council recently developed joint proposal for the accreditation under the new national arrangements. This has not been accepted by the Health Workforce Principal Committee and the proposed national Podiatry Board of Australia has been tasked with progressing national accreditation functions in consultation with ANZPAC and the Council.

David McKay is the Board's nominee on ANZPAC.

### **Use of Scheduled Drugs**

The joint project between the Board and the Australian Podiatry Association - Tasmania to extend prescribing rights to Tasmanian podiatrists is now well underway. A draft submission seeking prescribing and access rights to a range of scheduled drugs has been developed.

There have been initial discussions with the Department of Health and Human Services about the issues involved in extending prescribing rights to Tasmanian podiatrists. After the draft submission has been revised, the Board and Association will write to the Department formally advising them of the wish to extend prescribing rights and the intention to commence stakeholder consultation.

Early in 2009, the Board and Association will write to key stakeholders explaining the proposed changes and offering to meet with them to discuss the proposal. Further information will be available when the consultation process begins.

### **Annual Report 2007-08**

A copy of the Boards annual report for 2007-08 including the annual financial statement is available at:  
<http://www.podregtas.com/annualreports.htm>

### **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	25 May 2011
<b>Lay Persons</b>	
Sarah Piggott	27 April 2011
Kay Gunn	9 March 2009

### **Board Contact Details**

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