



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

# The National Registration and Accreditation Scheme in Victoria

Victorian Parliamentary Inquiry into the performance  
of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency

17 April 2013

# Overview

- National Scheme working well in Victoria
- Built on strengths of previous state law
- Strong and robust public protection
- Consistent set of national standards
- Register once, practise nationwide
- Online register - 588,000 practitioners nationally
- Student registration
- National workforce data



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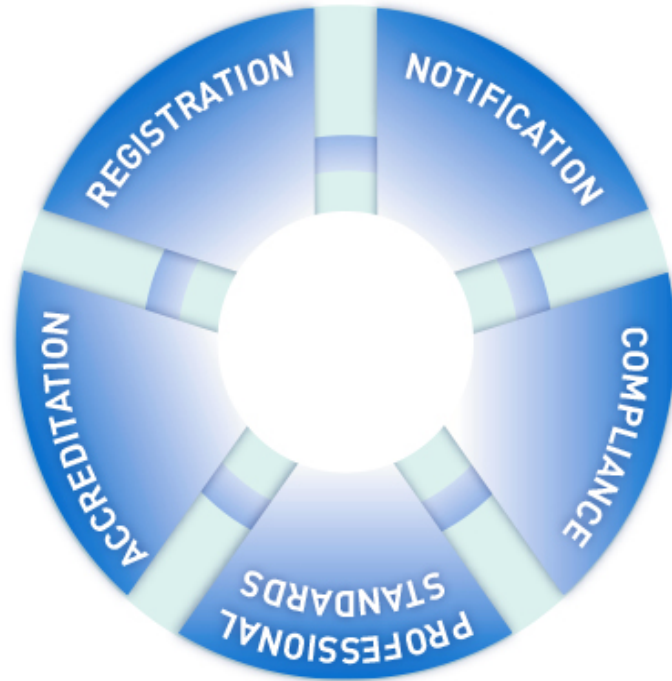
# Victorian snapshot 2012

- 153,000 practitioners (26% of national total)
- 28,000 Victorian students (31%)
- 58 Victorian education providers (38%)
- 1,674 notifications (21% of national total)
- 10% of Victorian notifications mandatory
- ~ \$30m to local economy from AHPRA national office in Victoria



# Our Work

- Professional standards
- Registration
- Notification
- Compliance
- Accreditation



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# Which professions?

## July 2010

1. chiropractors
2. dental care (including dentists, dental hygienists, dental prosthetists and dental therapists)
3. medical practitioners
4. nurses and midwives
5. optometrists
6. osteopaths
7. pharmacists
8. physiotherapists
9. podiatrists
10. psychologists

## July 2012

1. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners
2. Chinese medicine practitioners
3. medical radiation practitioners
4. occupational therapists



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# How many registered practitioners in Australia?

Profession Name	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	No PPP	Total
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practitioner	1	18	227	29	2	1	3	7		288
Chinese Medicine Practitioner	63	1,623	13	773	156	33	1,136	188	29	4,014
Chiropractor	61	1,557	23	713	361	48	1,260	526	89	4,638
Dental Practitioner	362	6,171	141	3,870	1,663	331	4,607	2,318	318	19,781
Medical Practitioner	1,879	30,223	992	18,416	7,398	2,119	23,324	9,381	1,680	95,412
Medical Radiation Practitioner	229	4,493	109	2,804	1,026	284	3,511	1,258	88	13,802
Midwife	55	430	48	409	381	9	731	268	51	2,382
Nurse	4,897	82,684	3,463	59,243	29,045	7,679	81,960	32,238	6,276	307,485
Nurse & Midwife	649	10,681	554	6,663	2,402	685	8,671	3,197	213	33,715
Occupational Therapist	215	4,187	125	3,076	1,194	249	3,569	2,232	67	14,914
Optometrist	74	1,588	28	915	240	82	1,203	370	129	4,629
Osteopath	31	515	1	154	36	43	912	51	23	1,766
Pharmacist	445	8,440	194	5,351	1,981	656	6,789	2,964	434	27,254
Physiotherapist	466	7,165	154	4,555	1,998	398	6,124	3,031	653	24,544
Podiatrist	46	994	14	649	381	93	1,245	411	23	3,856
Psychologist	794	10,184	221	5,419	1,513	508	8,117	3,221	292	30,269
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,267</b>	<b>170,953</b>	<b>6,307</b>	<b>113,039</b>	<b>49,777</b>	<b>13,218</b>	<b>153,162</b>	<b>61,661</b>	<b>10,365</b>	<b>588,749</b>



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# On Line Register of Practitioners

## Dr Joanna Mary Flynn

### Profession: Medical Practitioner

Registration number:	MED0001041828	Endorsements:	No
Status:	Registered	Notations:	No
Registration expiry date:	30/09/2013	Conditions:	No
Principal place of practice:	BRUNSWICK WEST VIC 3055	Undertakings:	No
Registration Type:	General Specialist	Reprimands:	No

[View Details](#)



# Scope and scale

- Bold government vision
- Model unique internationally
- Significant pace and scale of reform
- UK HCPC submission:
  - 10 year bedding-down of UK scheme – no complex or high volume professions
  - Significant start up investment required
- Self-funded by registration fees
- Upcoming 3 year national review





# Roles and responsibilities

- **Straightforward Ministerial oversight/accountability**
  - Ministerial Council appoints national Boards and approves registration standards
  - Victorian Minister appoints state Boards
  - Wide accountability – Health Practitioner Ombudsman, external tribunals
- **National Boards have primary regulatory decision making role**
  - Standards, policies and guidelines (national Boards)
  - Registration and notifications about practitioners (state boards and committees)
- **AHPRA administers the work of Boards**
  - Partnership with Boards
  - State office in Victoria



# Fees

- Prudent financial management:
  - Fees set by National Boards
  - Single national registration fee for each profession
  - Meet statutory obligations
  - No expectation of additional or ongoing government funding
  - No cross subsidisation between professions
  - Responsible reserves to manage cases and mitigate risk
- Transparency:
  - External audit by VAGO
  - Publish health profession agreements between AHPRA and each National Board
  - Annual Report tabled in each Parliament



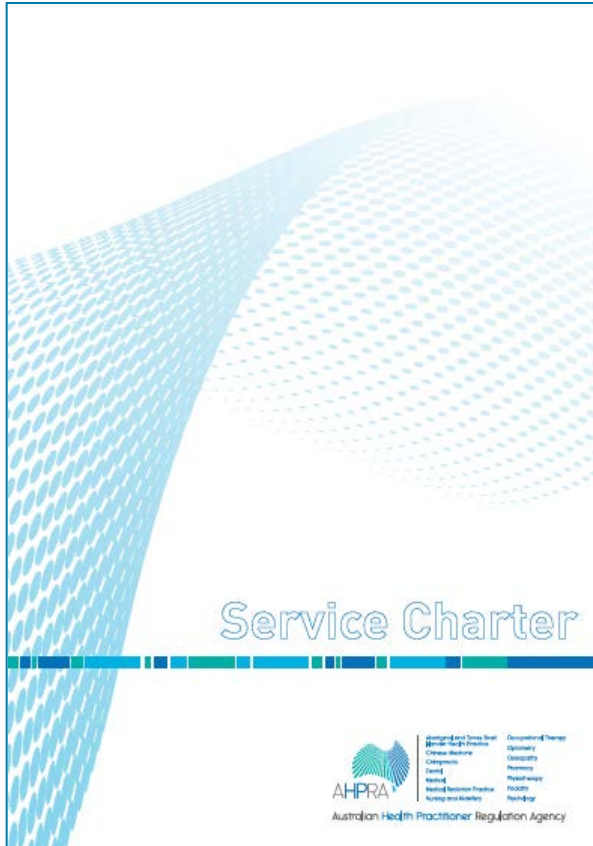
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# Public safety benefits - notifications

- National notifications system
- National sharing of information
- Flexible law; better for managing notifications and impairment
- Mandatory reporting
- Common purpose – AHPRA, National Boards and Health Services Commissioner:
  - Protecting the public and facilitating access to health services



# Communication



- Local customer service team
- Service charter
- Community Reference Group
- Professions Reference Group
- Direct national Board communications
- Plain english guide to notifications



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# Opportunities for improvement

- Notifications:
  - Information to notifiers
  - Strengthen joint consideration with HSC
  - Performance benchmarks/KPIs
- Liaison with employers:
  - Establish local health services forum
  - Electronic data exchange from national register
- Communication with public and practitioners:
  - Review and strengthen service charter annually
  - Formalise consultation with local consumer groups



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