

re: Mandatory Registration Standards

I appreciate the work that has gone into the development of these standards, and accept the effort being made to assure standards of high quality care provision by OTs nationally.

Please,

1) Has the Board considered an option for tiered requirements for CPD? Some professions offer this in recognition of the expertise that is well-developed among experienced practitioners. For example: A new graduate, or practitioner 0 - 5 years out of training, may have different CPD requirements than a practitioner who has worked 15+ years in a chosen specialty practice area. Eg. consider Level I versus Level II or Level III practitioner, with fewer CPD requirements expected of the Level II or III practitioner?

2) I have worked in rural and regional areas of Australia and have found severe limitations to access to continuing education options. With due respect, it seems that often regulations are driven by those who work in areas of academia or metropolitan areas and have access to CPD at their fingertips. I understand that up to 20 hours may be achieved by informal activities, but the other 10 hours may be a challenge to rural therapists, in particular.

3) Are the requirements for CPD the same for F/T versus P/T practitioners? Many P/T practitioners are short on time and resource - as new mums, students in other discipline areas, or similar?

4) re: Keeping files: we are in a mobile society - people moving homes - locally, interstate, and internationally, changing jobs, or careers - surely 3 years should be adequate? (versus 5 years)

5) What happens if a practitioner travels overseas during a certification period? Are CPD activities engaged overseas recognized?

6) Can therapists use an on-line CPD record on an on-going basis, and at time of submission, (with their log-in)? Will on-line e-storage of records be offered to therapists?

Thank you for reviewing these considerations