

ANNUAL REPORT 2014 - 15



PHYSIOTHERAPY COUNCIL
OF NEW SOUTH WALES

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



*Physiotherapy Council
of New South Wales*

This is my first President's message for the Physiotherapy Council annual report. I am pleased that my words are appearing in the first combined annual report for all 14 health professional Councils.

In that vein, I would like to introduce the Physiotherapy Council of NSW's report for 2015. The report gives an overview of the Council's work over the past year. I would also like to mention the number of practitioners and student members we have - 7,943 practitioners and 2,657 students in NSW.

Having this number of practitioners, as well as an enthusiasm for the physiotherapy profession, is what drives members of the Physiotherapy Council.

The Council has been ably supported by the HPCA staff. They have provided a high standard of professional services which has ensured smooth operations.

Six new members are joining the Council from 1 July 2015 and I would like to welcome those new members of Council:

- Ms Jenny Aiken - Practitioner Member
- Ms Marie Clarke - Community Representative
- Mr David Gonzalez - Practitioner Member
- Ms Babette Smith - Community Representative
- Ms Karen Thomas - Legal Member
- Ms Elizabeth Ward - Practitioner Member.

Before closing, I would also like to thank the following retiring members of the Physiotherapy Council for their work over the years, particularly in 2015.

- Ms Anne Deans
- Mr David Cross
- Ms Maria Quinlivan
- Professor Ross Fitzgerald
- Ms Joanna Khoo
- Ms Christine Campbell.

The work of all the Council members throughout the year, and in particular the retiring members, is appreciated. All those who have served on the Physiotherapy Council have provided invaluable work and demonstrated unwavering commitment to the ongoing protection of the NSW public.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

continued

Of particular note, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Ms Anne Deans who retires as President of the Council after many years of service to the Council and the NSW Board. Anne has served for more years than I am sure she would like me to put in writing. Anne has worked tirelessly, professionally and with the utmost integrity over her many years of service and it is on her worthy shoulders that I find myself now standing.

Council members will continue to strive for ensuring public protection, meeting the challenges, and managing complaints about physiotherapists' conduct, health and performance matters.

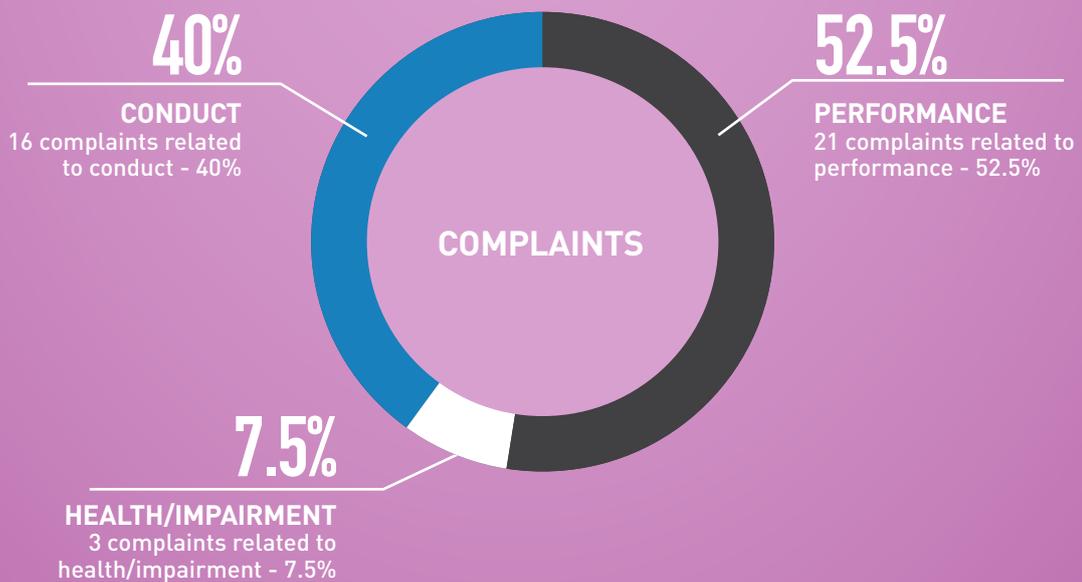
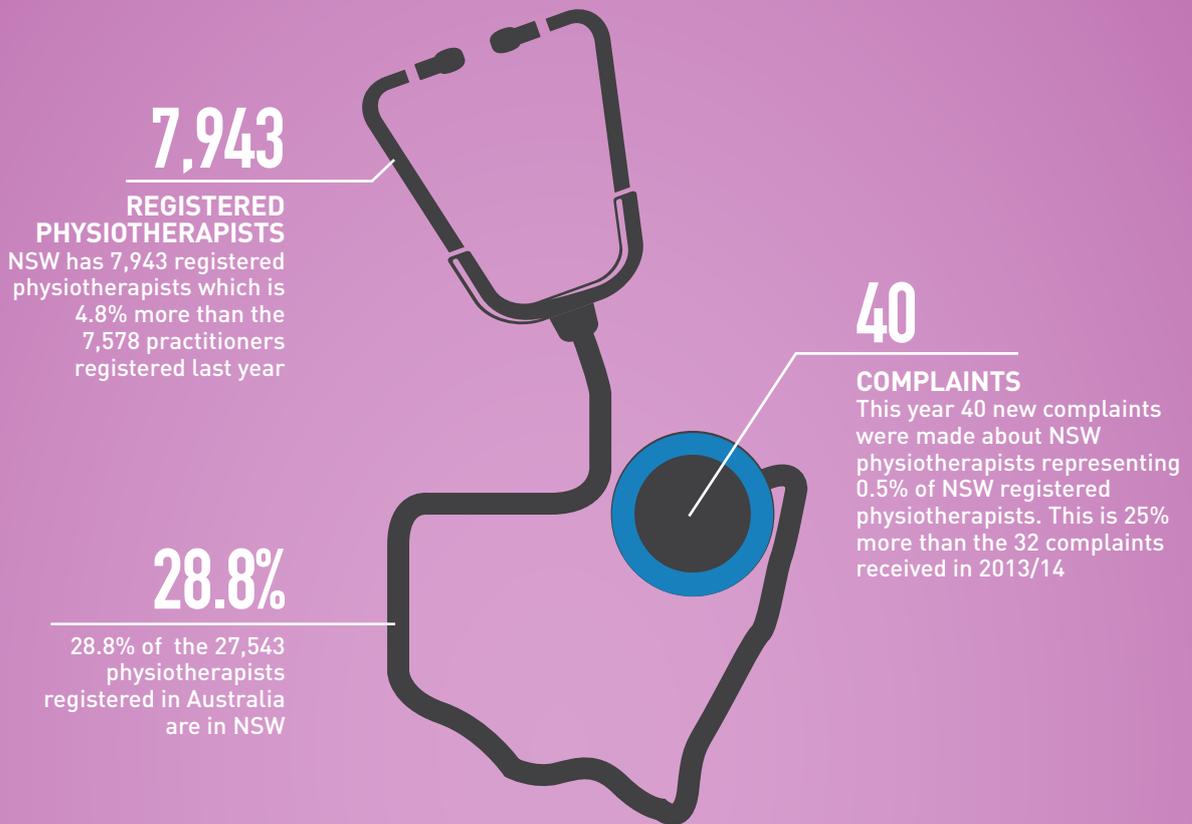
As a new President, I look forward to working further with the Council and serving our great profession.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Ryan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping 'M' and a long, sweeping tail.

(Mr) Michael Ryan

President
Physiotherapy Council of NSW

REGULATION OF PHYSIOTHERAPISTS IN NSW IN 2014/15 YEAR IN SUMMARY



Regulation of Physiotherapists in NSW in 2014/15

Year in summary

NSW has 7,943 registered physiotherapists which is 4.8% more than the 7,578 practitioners registered last year and 28.8% of the 27,543 physiotherapists registered to practise in Australia.

This year 40 new complaints were made about NSW physiotherapists representing 0.5% of NSW registered physiotherapists. This is 25% more than the 32 complaints received in 2013/14.

Complaints about NSW physiotherapists included:

- 16 related to conduct - 40%
- 21 related to performance – 52.5%
- 3 related to health/impairment – 7.5%.

One mandatory notification was received, that is 2.5% of total complaints.

Complaints were received from:

- 19 patients – 47.5%
- 4 relatives of patients or practitioner – 10%
- 2 self reported – 5%
- 1 employer – 2.5%
- 5 other agencies – 12.5%
- 9 other organisations or individuals – 22.5%.

Complaints management included:

- 2 health assessments
- 1 Assessment Committee referral
- 1 Council Inquiry
- 3 Counselling
- 3 Impaired Registrants Panel.

32 complaints were closed with outcomes including:

- 5 Advice with no further action
- 1 Conditions by consent
- 2 Counselling with activities agreed
- 2 Counselling with no further action
- 3 Withdrawn
- 11 Discontinued at assessment consultation
- 2 HCCC referred to conciliation/resolution
- 5 No further action after consultation process
- 1 Orders without conditions.

Council membership

Clause 8 of Schedule 1A of the *Health Practitioner Regulation (New South Wales) Regulation 2010* prescribes that there are 10 members of the Physiotherapy Council appointed by the Governor.

Members who are registered physiotherapy practitioners:

- Ms Anne Deans Dip Physio – President
- Mr David Cross BAppSc, M Phty – Deputy President
- Ms Maria Quinlivan BAppSc Physio
- Professor Darren Rivett PhD, MAppSc (Manip Phty), BAppSc (Phty), Grad Dip ManipTher MAICD

The registered physiotherapist member nominated by the professional association:

- Mr Michael Ryan BAppSc (Phty), MHLthSc (ManipPhty), FACP

The registered physiotherapist member involved in conducting an approved program of study:

- Dr Martin Mackey PhD, MSaf,Sc, BAppSc, BEcon, Grad Cert Ed

Community members:

- Ms Christine Campbell BA, LLB – Legal member
- Professor Ross Fitzgerald PhD, MA, BA
- Ms Joanna Khoo MPub Hlth, BLib Stud
- Ms Janene Eagleton GAICD, FGIA, MBA, BHA, RD

New members appointed during the year:

- Professor Darren Rivett (From 1 July 2014)
- Ms Janene Eagleton (From 1 July 2014)

No members retired during the year.

Two members retired as at 30 June 2015, Professor Ross Fitzgerald and Ms Joanna Khoo.

Members who served the maximum term and retired at the end of June 2015:

- Ms Anne Deans
- Mr David Cross
- Ms Maria Quinlivan
- Ms Christine Campbell

Attendance at Council meetings

The Physiotherapy Council met on 11 occasions. Attendance at the meetings was as follows.

Member	Meetings Attended	Meetings Eligible to Attend
Ms Anne Deans	11	11
Mr David Cross	11	11
Ms Maria Quinlivan	11	11
Professor Darren Rivett	10	11
Dr Martin Mackey	5	11
Mr Michael Ryan	10	11
Professor Ross Fitzgerald*	4	11
Ms Joanna Khoo*	6	11
Ms Janene Eagleton	9	11
Ms Christine Campbell	9	11

* Prof Fitzgerald and Ms Khoo were granted leave of absence for two meetings each.

Executive Officer

The Physiotherapy Council was supported by the Executive Officer, Amanda McEacharn and 1.5 FTE staff allocation. Isabel Anastasiadis and Brad Skidmore provided Executive Officer support in the absence of Ms McEacharn. The Executive Officer and support staff is employed by the HPCA.

Committees of Council

Section 41F of the Law provides that the Council may establish committees to assist it with the exercise of its functions. Members of committees need not be Council members. The Physiotherapy Council was supported by three committees during the reporting period with membership as follows:

Committee	Membership	Meetings Attended
Complaints and Notifications The Committee reviews all new complaints in consultation with the HCCC. The Committee met on 11 occasions.	Mr David Cross (Chair)	11
	Mr Michael Ryan	10
	Dr Debra Shirley	11
	Ms Christine Campbell	9
Health Committee The Committee monitors and advises on management of impaired practitioners. The committee met on 8 occasions.	Ms Maria Quinlivan (Chair)	8
	Dr Martin Mackey	5
	Ms Virginia Binns	8
	Ms Margo Gill	8
Publications Review The Committee develops, reviews and advises on material published by the Council. The committee met on 5 occasions.	Ms Christine Campbell (Chair)	5
	Ms Vicki Williams	5
	Mr David Young	5

Regulatory committees and panels

Part 8 of the Law prescribes the committees and panels that support the Council in undertaking its regulatory activities. They include Assessment Committees, Impaired Registrants Panels and Performance Review Panels.

The Physiotherapy Council was supported by two of these bodies during the reporting period with membership as follows.

Regulatory Committee	Membership	Participation
Physiotherapy Assessment Committee	Associate Professor Catherine Dean – Chairperson	1 meeting
	Mr John Davies – Community Member	1 meeting
	Ms Libby Loneragan – Practitioner Member	1 meeting
	Mr Michael Ward – Practitioner Member	1 meeting
Impaired Registrants Panellists	Prof Ian Cameron – Registered Medical Practitioner	3 Hearings
	Ms Vicki Williams – Registered Physiotherapist	3 Hearings
	Dr Adrienne Hunt – Registered Physiotherapist	1 Hearing

Meetings and conferences

The Physiotherapy Council was represented at the following meetings and conferences during the reporting period.

Name	Attendance
Council Presidents' Forum – bi-monthly meetings	Ms Anne Deans
Physiotherapy Council Planning Day	Council Members
Presentation to physiotherapy students at Charles Sturt University	Mr David Cross
Council Presidents' Forum meeting with Chairs of National Boards	Ms Anne Deans
Teleconferences with Physiotherapy Board of Australia Chair	Council Members
Council Presidents' Forum meeting with the NSW Minister for Health	Ms Anne Deans
NRAS Combined Meeting	Ms Anne Deans and Mr David Cross
NSW Forum for Independent Review of NRAS	Ms Anne Deans

Overseas travel

There was no overseas travel during the reporting period.

Council Communications

The Physiotherapy Council website is the principal medium used for communicating information to physiotherapists, students and the community. The website includes links to other key bodies in the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme.

The Physiotherapy Council also distributes electronic newsletters to physiotherapists with a principal place of practice in NSW. Further information is available on the Council's website at www.physiotherapycouncil.nsw.gov.au.

Remuneration

Remuneration for members of the Council was as follows.

President	\$2,336 per annum
Deputy President	\$1,752 per annum
Members	\$1,752 per annum

In addition, Council members receive sitting fees of \$436 per day and \$218 per half day for the conduct of Council inquiries and attendance at committee meetings and other regulatory activities, if held on a day other than the monthly Council meeting.

Also, members receive \$256 per day and \$128 per half day for attendance for participating in counselling sessions or at specially convened workshops, forums or meetings.

Council members are reimbursed for expenses incurred when travelling on official business at Council direction.

Members of panels and tribunals also receive remuneration and reimbursement of expenses.

Financial Management

The Physiotherapy Council's accounts performance as reported in the Financial Statements is as follows.

Accounts Performance 2014/15	\$
Revenue	555,245
Operating expenditure	450,401
Gain/(loss) on disposal	1,932
Net result	106,776
Net cash reserves (cash and cash equivalents minus current liabilities)	893,242

* Included in the net cash reserves is Education and Research bank account balance of: \$188,603

The Physiotherapy Council's budget for the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 is as follows.

Budget 2015/16	\$
Operating expenditure	436,887
Revenue	533,902
Net result	97,015

Full financial statements are presented in Part 3 of this report 'Financial Statements for NSW Health Professional Councils'.