

To Practitioner Regulation Subcommittee,

I have just attended the Darwin forum of the National Registration and Accreditation Implementation Project. Thank you for organising this - it was most useful to have an update on progress.

I know that this legislation is primarily concerned with the protection of restricted titles, and that other considerations are secondary, but I would like to draw your attention again to a point that cropped up in today's forum.

Each state and territory has its own poisons and drugs laws at present, which impact on the scope of practice of all prescribers, whether they be optometrists, doctors, nurses etc. Given that we have a national Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Drugs and Poisons, it would be a good idea to have each state and territory adopt it in full. Currently, the Northern Territory is the only jurisdiction that comes close to this ideal – the rest all change or ignore parts of it to a greater or lesser extent. That way a nationally registered person would not be in danger of unwittingly breaking the law in another jurisdiction when they write a prescription.

These are my views, and not necessarily the views of the Pharmacy Board.

Thank you,

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Andrew Tooms
Member
Pharmacy Board of the Northern Territory
08 8935 2730 (bh)
08 8219 0015 (fax)
0408 901 553 (mob)

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