



## AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND BURN ASSOCIATION Ltd.

ABN 88 054 089 520

[www.anzba.org.au](http://www.anzba.org.au)

Ms Joanna Riches  
The Council of Occupational Therapists Registration Boards  
16 Norma Street, Mile End  
SA 5031

24<sup>th</sup> October 2008

Dear Ms Riches and Ms Raison

### **RE: Australian Health Workforce Principles Committee submission**

I have been made aware of the above document in my role as President of Australian and New Zealand Burns Association (ANZBA). On behalf of ANZBA, I support the submission for inclusion of the OT profession in the national registration scheme. In particular, ANZBA endorses the submission on the following points:

The response to major burn injury is complex and devastating. Rehabilitation of burn survivors is resource intensive and prolonged. Best outcomes are reported with the involvement of an *experienced* multidisciplinary burn team. Occupational therapists are integral members of all burn services supported by our organization.

The nature of burn wound healing, surgical reconstruction and scar management exposes many pitfalls and numerous safety concerns necessitating the input of experienced, well-trained clinicians.

ANZBA promotes a National Model of Burn Care involving all disciplines in the burn team. The model aims to ensure equitable access to expert burn management across and, in all, jurisdictions in Australia (and New Zealand). Further, we endorse the development of accreditation and professional education standards which are key points to the submission.

Finally, in the event of another mass casualty burn disaster in our region, bi-national registration would facilitate the optimal enactment of AUSBURNPLAN (DoHA, 2004, Recommendation #8).

I hope that your campaign is successful for burn survivors and burn professionals alike. If we can be of any further assistance please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dale Edgar', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Dale Edgar**

President ANZBA

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Cc: Angela Thynne, ANZBA Treasurer, QLD.