

FACT Sheet

12 March 2014

Australian and New Zealand medical graduates completing internships in New Zealand

Australian and New Zealand medical graduates who start an internship during or after 2014, and who are applying for general registration in Australia, have to meet the requirements of the Medical Board of Australia's registration standard *"Granting general registration as a medical practitioner to Australian and New Zealand medical graduates on completion of intern training"*.

From 2014, to be eligible for general registration, interns must successfully complete:

- A term of at least eight weeks in experience in emergency medical care¹
- A term of at least 10 weeks that provides experience in medicine
- A term of at least 10 weeks that provides experience in surgery
- A range of other approved terms to make up 12 months (minimum of 47 weeks full time equivalent service).

The registration standard can be accessed at www.medicalboard.gov.au under 'Registration Standards'.

Implications for Australian and New Zealand medical graduates who have undertaken an internship in New Zealand

Internship undertaken during or before 2013

The registration standard takes effect for interns starting the intern year in 2014. It does not apply retrospectively. The Board will continue to accept for general registration without conditions, applicants who have undertaken internships in New Zealand until 2013, regardless of rotations completed.

Internship undertaken from 2014

The registration standard applies to applicants who start their internship from 2014.

The Medical Board of Australia is aware that the Medical Council of New Zealand does not mandate a term in emergency medical care during the intern year. However from 2014 this is a requirement for general registration in Australia.

The Medical Board of Australia has agreed to continue to grant general registration to Australian and New Zealand graduates who have completed an internship in New Zealand. Applicants who have not completed a term of at least eight weeks experience in emergency medical care either during the intern year, or in subsequent practice, will have a condition imposed on their registration that they can only practise in emergency medical care (including in an emergency department) if they are being supervised by

¹ The registration standard states that this term must provide experience under close supervision in the assessment and management of patients with acute undifferentiated illnesses, including assessment and management of acutely ill patients. This is a term in emergency medicine or in general practices accredited for intern training by an authority approved by the Board and assessed as providing sufficient exposure to emergency medicine.

a medical practitioner with unconditional general registration. The condition will appear against the practitioner's listing on the public Register of medical practitioners.

This condition will allow applicants to be granted general registration while also complying with the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory.²

The condition will be removed from the practitioner's registration and from the public register after the practitioner provides a letter from their supervisor confirming that they have satisfactorily completed at least eight weeks (full time equivalent) service under supervision in emergency medical care.

² Section 52(2) of the National Law allows the National Board to decide an individual is eligible for general registration if they do not meet a registration standard by imposing conditions on their registration.