

5 February 2015

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Dear Dr Flynn

**Re: Draft revised guidelines – supervised practice for international medical graduates**

Thank you for giving the AMA the opportunity to comment on the above draft guidelines.

The draft guidelines generally appear to strengthen existing supervision requirements and provide greater clarity in a number of areas. We welcome the Board's emphasis on high quality supervision, which is critical to good patient care and a quality work and training experience for IMGs themselves.

We note that the draft standards propose to require general practices supervising IMGs to be accredited to the RACGP's standards for general practice. There are 5,645 accredited general practices currently, out of an estimated 7,000 general practices overall. This measure would potentially preclude a substantial proportion of practices from taking on an IMG, even though they may be able to provide very good levels of supervision.

The AMA is not aware of any evidence of problems with IMG supervision in unaccredited GP practices and, to that extent, would suggest that the Board give further consideration to the necessity of this requirement before proceeding with it.

The AMA has previously raised issues with the Board with respect to compliance with supervision guidelines and, to that extent, we are pleased to see the inclusion of a specific provision regarding the auditing of supervision requirements.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Owler', written in a cursive style.

Assoc Prof Brian Owler  
President