General practice and/or primary care experience assessment

From 1 July 2016 the Medical Board’s registration standard for limited registration for area of need requires international medical graduate (IMG) applicants seeking to work in general practice to have three years full time equivalent experience working in general practice or primary care.

The criteria outlined below are used to assess and determine whether the overseas medical experience of an IMG is equivalent to that of Australian General Practice.

- The three years of potential full-time equivalent (FTE) general practice (GP) experience must have been gained within the last 10 years to date of receipt of application to the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA).
- At least two and half (2.5) years of experience must be made up of experiences that lasted at least six months or longer. The 2.5 years of experience can have occurred at any time in the past 10 years prior to the date of receipt of the application for registration to AHPRA.
- The remaining six months of experience can be made up of experiences that lasted less than six months and the experiences can have occurred at any time in the past 10 years to the date of receipt of the application to AHPRA.
- A maximum of 38 hours per week of general practice experience can be counted toward the three years FTE experience.

Other factors that will be considered:

- Equivalence of the demographic exposure of the medical experience.
- Equivalence of the disease exposure of the medical experience.
- Equivalence of the medical facilities worked at.
- Equivalence of the working environment.
- Equivalence and relevance of the Continuing Professional Development attained.

The Board may request further information if the information provided does not adequately verify the experience.

The limited registration for an area of need registration standard can be accessed at www.medicalboard.gov.au under ‘Registration Standards’.