



Standing Council on Health
(meeting as the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council)

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Dr Joanna Flynn
Chair
Medical Board of Australia
GPO Box 9958
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Dear Dr Flynn

Thank you for your letter of 20 July 2012, recommending that the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council (the AHWMC) approves the proposed registration standard for granting general registration as a medical practitioner to Australian and New Zealand medical graduates on completion of intern training (intern registration standard).

I am pleased to advise that pursuant to Section 12 of the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act*, as in force in each State and Territory, the AHWMC decided on Friday 9 November 2012 to approve the proposed intern registration standard. The approved registration standard is to take effect for interns commencing their intern year in 2014 (ie from 1 January 2014).

In approving the registration standard, Ministers noted advice from the Board that the registration standard will provide clarity for interns, their supervisors and their employers on requirements for general registration, and it represents a nationally consistent approach to the intern year. Ministers also noted that the registration standard is expected to achieve balance between the need to train increasing numbers of medical graduates against the need to ensure that the intern year continues to meet the educational needs of medical graduates to enable them to provide high quality care to patients.

Ministers are also aware that approval of this intern registration standard represents the first step in a process to review intern training and accreditation over time. We note that the Board will further consult jurisdictions as this process continues.

We trust that communicating the AHWMC's approval will enable the Board to publish the registration standard by the end of 2012, so that hospitals and other employers of interns, graduating medical students, clinical supervisors, and organisations that accredit intern positions become aware of, and can prepare for, the new requirements that will take effect for the intern year in 2014.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michelle O'Byrne". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the letter "y".

Michelle O'Byrne
Chair
Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council

28 November 2012

cc: Director Board Services AHPRA, Chris.Robertson@ahpra.gov.au