

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 30 June 2014 9:28 AM  
**To:** medboardconsultation  
**Subject:** Consultation on registration standards, codes and guidelines

The Executive Officer

Dear Sir or Madam,

WHY DOES MY MRCGP NOT COUNT IN AUSTRALIA?

Can I please request that the Board reconsiders the anomaly that the British MRCGP is not recognised in Australia, unless preceded by an FYI (Foundation Year 1) achieved in Australia or the UK.

The FY1 is equivalent to a PJ (Practical Year) from where I graduated in Germany, with an identical structure and final examination. I achieved this following a one year training course, after completing Medical School, in order to gain full GMC registration *in 1999*

Although there is a reciprocal agreement between the Australian and UK Colleges of General Practitioners to recognise each others' qualifications, this is currently nullified if there is an omission of the FY1 course from either the UK or Australia.

In my case the acquisition of the FY1 course would have been in addition to my PJ course, and this was not regarded as necessary (i.e. duplication) by the UK Deanery [REDACTED] when I joined the GP Retainer scheme in this country.

The MRCGP in the UK is awarded after completing GP training and passing the final MRCGP examination. In the case of an international graduate it is awarded through assessment after practicing for a minimum of five years as a GP in the UK.

To become eligible to take the assessment for MRCGP oral examination, a portfolio covering all aspects of General Practice work must be submitted and approved, in addition to the oral exams. Surely, therefore, it cannot be right that my criteria to practice as GP in Australia hinges solely on the completion of an FY1 course in either Australia or the UK.

Frankly the equivalent of the year long FY1 course (and the PJ course) is the equivalent of youth cricket, whereas the attainment of an MRCGP can be compared with the standard required for Test selection!

*Surely the qualification to practice as a GP in Australia should be the completion and recognition of the MRCGP in both Australia and the UK.*

I raise this question because I wish to use my ability and 20 years' experience in General Practice to work in Australia, and to join my husband, [REDACTED] who has been working at the University [REDACTED] for the past four years. I trust, therefore, that you will consider the above situation, on both my personal level, and in respect of other graduates possessing an MRCGP.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]