

ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS



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Dr Joanna Flynn AM
Chair, Medical Board of Australia
Email: medboardconsultation@ahpra.gov.au

Dear Dr Flynn

Consultation – Core registration standards

Thank you for the opportunity to review and provide feedback on the core registration standards – professional indemnity insurance; continuing professional development and; recency of practice.

The changes to these standards provide greater clarity around some important issues, particularly in regards to failure to comply with the core standards. While there is further scope to simplify the language, we believe this is an improvement on the current standards.

We note with interest the on-going reference to the importance of peer-review and performance appraisal, particularly as it relates to on-going discussion regarding revalidation. You may be aware that the College has recently introduced a 'Performance Review' category to its CPD program and is in the process of developing a multi-source feedback tool to support Fellows in undertaking a structured performance appraisal. We look forward to continuing engagement with the MBA regarding CPD and revalidation.

While the College is broadly supportive of the changes made to each standard, we believe that these standards warrant review every three years rather than the proposed five years. In particular CPD is a rapidly evolving area and would benefit from regular review in conjunction with engagement across all specialist Colleges.

We would also appreciate further clarification regarding the standards for medical practitioners who choose a self-directed program of CPD. In particular, we are interested in gaining further insight into the management and oversight of practitioners who choose this pathway over participation in a College-based CPD program.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to review these standards.

Yours sincerely

Mr Graeme Campbell FRACS
Chair, Professional Development and Standards Board

Copy: A/Prof Julie Mundy, Chair Professional Standards; Dr John Quinn, Executive Director for Surgical Affairs; A/Prof David Hillis, CEO; Mr John Biviano, Director Fellowship and Standards

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