

Public Consultation on the draft revised Guidelines - Supervised practice for international medical graduates (Medical Board of Australia)

Peninsula Health submission – December 2014

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to supervision for international medical graduates (IMGs). Peninsula Health continues to take a keen interest in opportunities to reform the existing registration system for medical practitioners and welcomes the call for submissions as part of the review.

Comments on Draft Guidelines

- Section 3.4 – The proposal to appoint term supervisors in a hospital setting is agreed. For IMGs in a Learned college training program the opportunity to nominate Department training co-ordinators is also opportune.
- Section 3.5 – Requirements are agreed, however the need to complete Board mandated online training for Hospital based supervisors should be further considered when this module is developed and piloted.
- Section 3.6 – Agreed with the exception that term supervisors in a hospital be limited to supervising up to 4 IMGs at any time. This is not supported as the supervision levels and structure in a hospital will include the Clinical Director of the unit and the Learned College training supervisor (where appointed) as a minimum for all IMGs. This recommendation would be counter to the established responsibility hierarchy in health services where junior doctors are allocated to specific units and then these units in turn report to a head of service and to a Clinical Director then to the Director of Medical Services. In addition, in some smaller, discrete units there may be only one specialist supervisor but more than 4 IMGs, so this requirement would be impractical to implement. In practice consultants on ward service will supervise allocated IMGs when they are on duty.
- Section 3.7 – Agreed, noting the comments at section 3.5 regarding the proposed mandated online training module are also germane. The Board should provide regular feedback to DMS on the status of completion of mandated online education training for hospital staff responsible for supervising IMGs should this be mandated.

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