



AMA submission to the Medical Board of Australia - registration standards

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The AMA has reviewed the Board's proposed revisions to the following registration standards:

- granting general registration to medical practitioners in the standard pathway who hold an AMC certificate; and
- specialist registration

and provides the following comments.

Specialist registration standard

The proposed wording and structure of the standard is clear and appropriate. The AMA supports the proposed revisions to the standard.

Granting general registration to medical practitioners in the standard pathway who hold an AMC certificate

The AMA notes the advice that proposed changes to this standard are largely cosmetic in nature.

However, the AMA considers that the removal of the requirement to demonstrate completion of an internship overseas or comparable experience is a fundamental change. The AMA is not in a position to support this proposal without further consultation with members.

We acknowledge that the current requirement is different to the requirements placed on graduates of Australian and New Zealand medical schools. However, the Australian Medical Council collaborates very closely with the Medical Council of New Zealand, and the AMC is tasked with accrediting medical schools in New Zealand. These are robust arrangements that support the mutual recognition of medical qualifications from both countries and justify the different treatment of New Zealand medical qualifications compared to other countries.

Given this, we do not consider the proposed change is justified on this basis.

We are also aware, through the experience of the Competent Authority Pathway, that only a limited number of countries have been able to demonstrate a level of comparability with

Australian standards in relation to the completion of intern training. This also confirms the need for considerable caution regarding this proposal.

In summary, the AMA supports distributing the proposed revised standards for consultation once further consideration has been given to the above comments.

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Contact

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