



The Royal Australasian  
College of Physicians

Dr Joanna Flynn AM  
Chair  
Medical Board of Australia

By email: [medboardconsultation@ahpra.gov.au](mailto:medboardconsultation@ahpra.gov.au)

## **Consultation on Registration Standards for Specialist Registration Submission by the Royal Australasian College of Physicians**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to the *registration standard for specialist registration*.

The Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) trains, educates and advocates on behalf of more than 14,300 physicians – often referred to as medical specialists – and 6,500 trainees, across Australia and New Zealand. It represents more than 32 medical specialties including paediatrics and child health, cardiology, respiratory medicine, neurology, oncology and public health medicine, occupational and environmental medicine, palliative medicine, sexual health medicine, rehabilitation medicine, geriatric medicine and addiction medicine. The College strives for excellence in health and medical care through lifelong learning, quality performance and advocacy.

### **Proposed changes to the registration standard for specialist registration**

The RACP supports the proposed changes to the *registration standard on specialist registration* (option two) and welcomes any revision to standards that improve readability and clarify requirements.

Regarding specific questions, the RACP would like to make the following comments:

#### **1. From your perspective, how is the current registration standard working?**

The RACP believes the current registration standard is working effectively.

#### **2. Is the content and structure of the draft revised registration standard helpful, clear, relevant and more workable than the current standard?**

The RACP agrees the draft revised standard has improved readability with the use of plain English and shorter sentences.

#### **3. Is there any content that needs to be changed or deleted in the draft revised registration standard?**

The RACP does not believe there needs to be any major changes or deletions to the draft revised standard, noting the proposed changes are mostly cosmetic in nature.

The RACP notes with appreciation that its recommendation, submitted in the earlier preliminary consultation, to consider removing the dual meaning term “Fellowship” was incorporated.

**4. Is there anything missing that needs to be added to the draft revised registration standard?**

The RACP does not believe any information is missing from the draft revised standard.

**5. Do you have any other comments on the draft revised registration standard?**

With reference to page 7 of the consultation document, under the heading “**when you apply for specialist registration**”, the RACP suggests the Board consider changing the text:

*Applicants with current general registration*

to:

*Applicants with current **AHPRA** general registration*

The RACP believes that clearly stating this relates to Australian general registration would stop any misunderstanding or confusion from applicants with general registration from another country.

**Recommendation:**

- To consider refining text to clearly state it refers to applicants with current Australian registration.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss this submission further.

Yours sincerely



Prof Richard Doherty  
**Dean**

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