

## Media release

15 June 2011

New registration standard for specialist registration

A new registration standard for specialist registration came into effect today, after approval by Ministerial Council.

The new Medical Board of Australia registration standard defines the requirements for specialist registration for locally trained and internationally qualified specialists.

Under the standard, the specialist colleges continue to be responsible for advising the Board about whether a medical practitioner has the necessary skills, training and qualifications to be registered as specialist.

The registration standard provides flexibility for internationally qualified specialists whose training may be different from an Australian trained specialist, by allowing for specialist registration within a defined and limited scope of practice that is recorded on the specialist register.

The Medical Board of Australia can register the practitioner to practise in a defined approved field of specialist practice or place conditions on the practitioners' registration to ensure they can only practise within this limited scope.

Any conditions or restrictions will be recorded on the public register, accessible to employers and the community.

"Having clear and flexible registration requirements for internationally qualified specialists is important not only to these practitioners, but also for responding to workforce needs in our communities," said the Chair of the Medical Board of Australia, Dr Joanna Flynn.

The standard will ensure that only practitioners who are suitably trained and qualified are recognised on the Specialists Register.

## For more information

- Visit <a href="www.ahpra.gov.au">www.ahpra.gov.au</a> under Contact us to lodge an online enquiry form
- For registration enquiries: 1300 419 495 (within Australia) +61 7 3666 4911 (overseas callers)
- For media enquiries: (03) 8708 9200