

30th January 2015

Dr Joanne Katsoris
Executive Officer, Medical
AHPRA
GPO Box 9958
Melbourne 3001

Dear Dr Katsoris,

Consultation – Guidelines – Supervised practice for international medical graduates

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft guidelines on supervised practice for international medical graduates.

Two of the tertiary site Directors of Paediatric Education (DPEs) in Victoria, Mike Starr at RCH and Rob Roseby at Monash Children's and myself, Director of Advanced Training at RCH have discussed the draft guidelines and wish to provide the following feedback:

- 1. Supervisor experience:** The draft guidelines require a "minimum three years full time equivalent practice in Australia with general and/or specialist registration". Our senior registrars may not meet this requirement and we believe that they could and should undertake such a role. We are aware that they can apply for special permission from MBA and would hope that they would be considered favourably.
Recommendation: *Permit senior trainees/registrars to be supervisors of IMGs.*
- 2. Supervisor completion of online education and assessment module:** It is acknowledged that this will be a good source of information for supervisors however it will impose a greater requirement on supervisors who can already be difficult to recruit for this purpose due to time constraints.
Recommendation: *MBA to remunerate supervisors for the time taken to complete such training and for their time supervising, assessing and providing reports to the MBA. The online education and assessment module should be kept to a reasonable time to complete and not be excessive in length. Supervision is distinctly different between GP and hospital settings and the development of separate supervisor training modules for these positions should be considered.*
- 3. Restriction on number of IMGs for hospital based term co-supervisors:** As with vocational trainees and interns, hospital systems and structures of term supervisors reporting up to an overall director of training works well to wave through those performing satisfactorily but to raise red flags regarding those with performance or personal or professional issues. Indeed, there is a strong argument that IMGs supervised in an existing structure like this are working and supervised in the safest environment possible.
Recommendation: *No restriction to be placed on the number of IMGs who can be supervised by a hospital based term co-supervisor.*

Don't hesitate to contact me should you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Anthea Greenway', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Dr Anthea Greenway (*on behalf of DPEs Dr Mike Starr, Dr Rob Roseby and myself*)

Director of Advanced Training

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