The National Medical Board of Australia April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Dear Dr Flynn,

Thank you for the recent significant update of the medical acupuncture endorsement requirements for AHPRA / MBA.

We agree with the guidelines as stated in the most recent March 2012 paper.

We would like to confirm the key agreed requirements as follows:

- 1. That the National Medical Board/AHPRA sets the standards for Medical Acupuncture.
- 2. Accreditation of standards will be done nationally through the current tripartite JCCMA. In the future the AMC may take up this role.
- 3. Currently the RACGP funds the JCCMA office/ process and the committee positions are honorary.
- 4. The two currently accredited FAMAC Part 1 courses are: Graduate Certificate in Medical Acupuncture (Monash) and the NSW/QLD Combined AMAC Course.
- Medical Practitioners must have general or specialist qualifications to be eligible to gain Medical Acupuncture endorsement. Medical students and training doctors cannot gain endorsement until they obtain general or specialist medical registration.
- 6. CPD requirements are required for maintaining endorsement for medical acupuncture and for being eligible for grandfathering provisions as described.
- 7. Grandfathering is allowed for 3 years after July 1<sup>st</sup> 2012, provided that acupuncture practice can be verified via Medicare item number usage and CPD has been undertaken as described.
- 8. The JCCMA will be able to accredit overseas course training equivalents, but overseas doctors will still be required to sit the Part 1 FAMAC clinical & written examinations to gain medical acupuncture endorsement.
- Medical Practitioners whilst training in acupuncture, can practice acupuncture
  provided they do not advertise/publicly 'claim' that they are a 'medical
  acupuncturist'.

Yours sincerely

## Dr Ian Relf

President Australian Medical Acupuncture College MBBS, BMedSci, MSc, DipRACOG, FRACGP, FAMAC.