

From: Olorunyomi Olowosegun [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 17 June 2024 3:27 PM
To: Specialist IMG Pathways Review
Subject: Registration Standard: Specialist Registration

Dear AHPRA Review Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this discussion. I am writing as member of the public and as a medical practitioner.

It is a welcome development for AHPRA to consider having a dual pathway for specialists registration.

There's no doubt that this will close the gap in access to specialist medical services and care.

I want to draw AHPRA attention to a cohort of Australian SIMGS specialists who were previously registered on the specialists pathway but could not complete the local exams of their respective colleges due to various reasons.

These cohort of SIMGS is worth including in the fast track pathway for the following reasons:

1. These cohort of SIMGS have been previously validated as comparable with the Australian trained specialists.
2. Some people in this cohort came into Australia when there was no use of the phrase's substantial and partial comparability.
3. Over the years, trained specialists have been accepted as substantially comparable from countries where some were deemed as partially comparable.
4. It is important to note that the quality of training is reducing worldwide due to lack of senior specialists willing to work where trainees are supposed to be trained.

5. My experience is that the quality of training of SIMGS who came to Australia 15 years ago is far more superior than the quality of specialists coming from the same country in 2024. The explanation is simple: Most of the senior practitioners left for greener pastures long ago. These is true for specialists from every corner of the globe.
6. Also, in this cohort, some of these SIMGS have been practicing in Australia in specialist positions in Australia and are well attuned to the Australian medical system.
7. As a medical practitioner in this category, I have practised in rural and remote settings both as a consultant and acting consultant. Some have even worked as clinical directors and supervisors of trainees over the years.
8. Many of people in this cohort have had a lot of up skilling and training experiences.
9. The cohort of SIMGS specialists who have acquired more experiences in Australia over the years in my opinion would be suitable for this pathway.
10. These cohort have been supervised over and over while practicing in Australia. These group will certainly not require further 6 months of supervision before being recognised as specialist through this pathway.
11. Medical practitioners acquire skills on the job, I hope that AHPRA will use this information to support the cohort of specialists SIMGS who have been forgotten because they could not align with the local colleges.
12. SIMGs in this cohort are valuable practitioners that should be included in this fast track pathway.
13. Many of these SIMGS have been and still remain the backbone of services delivery in many public hospitals and health services.
14. For Australia healthcare systems to progress, the dual pathway should recognise these cohort of tested specialists who have served the system. I belong to this category.
15. Lastly, I want to remind AHPRA that there is [REDACTED] in specialist assessments by the colleges. [REDACTED]

16. As soon as AHPRA takes away the monopoly of specialist assessments and recognition from the colleges, Australians will start to benefit from this. The current situation where a patient is unable to see a psychiatrist for 6 months is totally not acceptable.
17. I want my details to be made public

Yours truly,

Dr Olorunyomi Olowosegun

