

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Specialist IMG Pathways Review](#)
Subject: Public consultation on the revised Registration standard: specialist registration
Date: Wednesday, 26 June 2024 10:03:50 PM

Hello,

I am writing to lend my support to the Medical board of Australia's proposed revision for the eligibility and qualification requirements for specialist registration. I concur with Option 2 for the revised specialist recognition pathway.

Regarding the questions on Page 6 of the draft documents:

Question 1: Yes the content and structure of the draft revised specialist registration standard is clear, relevant, workable and helpful.

The expedited specialist pathway is laudable as it will increase the number of specialists in Australia which invariably will reduce the wait time needed to access specialist service.

As an International medical graduate myself, I was assessed by my specialist college and the process took more than eight months for the assessment to be completed for me to be eligible to start work in Australia. So I agree the specialist pathway needs to be revised. I currently work as a medical specialist in a regional town in [REDACTED].

Question 2: Regarding suggestions to add to the draft

I would like to raise awareness to a cohort of SIMGs who were deemed partially comparable by their specialist colleges and were required to complete some requirements to gain Specialist recognition in Australia.

Though they were unable to complete their college requirements (eg not pass an exam), but due to their substantial work experience in Australia at the level of a senior Clinician/consultant, have been allowed to work as Senior medical officers/consultants without the title of "Specialist" in "Areas of need location ie regional or rural areas"

In my opinion, this cohort of doctors should be considered for a review as well. My question is: can they be included in this expedited specialist pathway as well? They are working at the level of a "specialist" (consultant/SMO role) without the title.

There is a huge number of these cohort of doctors. I live in a regional town and these cohort of doctors are helpful in mitigating the health gap we face as residents in regional areas but since they are not able to bill as specialist, their role could be limiting and less attractive for employment in our public hospitals.

Question 3: No, the draft advocates for increased access to specialist care which will benefit every Australian particularly the rural and remote dwellers

Question 4: No, The SIMG will need to learn cultural awareness of the ATSI people; the supervised practice and cultural workshops will help gain awareness. The Cohort of doctors mentioned in question 2 who have been practicing here for years would have had this cultural competence already

Question 5: No

Question 6: This is a great initiative and I'm keen to see it successful

I would like my write up to be confidential, I am happy for it to go on your website but without my name or identifiers.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]