

Christoph Ahrens MD Orthopaedic Surgeon Supp. Submission No. 66.3

(Overseas Trained Doctors)
Date: 11/11/2011

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To: House Standing Committee on Health and Ageing

Re: Inquiry into registration processes of overseas trained doctors

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing again as I know you are interested in personal experiences of doctors with "the system".

I have today been notified by RACS that they no longer support my area of need registration. This means I face deregistration any day.

The dispute with RACS is essentially about their request for me to present for a registrar examination. In order for me to properly prepare for this exam they request for me to leave my post in Bega and train in areas which are irrelevant for my work here. RACS calls this my pathway to fellowship.

I have written to the College and explained that I do not wish to commit to the proposed pathway before your inquiry comes up with recommendations and these have been implemented. (please see attached letter)

Despite support of my Area Health Service and both Members for Bega requesting a "period of grace"(letters attached) the College has now withdrawn their support for further registration.

Can you help???

Kind regards

Christoph Ahrens