



Exceptional People. Exceptional Care.

Submission No. 78
(Overseas Trained Doctors)
Date: 17/02/2011

2nd February 2011

[REDACTED]
Standing Committee on Health and Ageing
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Re: Invitation to make a submission – Inquiry into Registration Processes and Support for Overseas Trained Doctors

I would like to make a succinct but extremely strong submission to the above.

Currently the system is beset with rigidity and a lack of recognition of the ability of certain OTD's as a result of previous less than adequate registration and supervisory processes. As a result there are two major consequences:

1. Staffing of hospitals has become a nightmare when OTD's are involved
2. There is significant discrimination against some OTD's

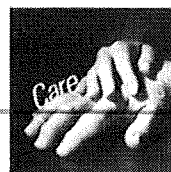
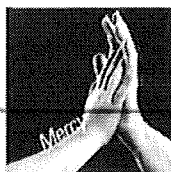
The points I wish the committee to seriously look at are:

- When an OTD has significant experience in a speciality and is actively and successfully progressing towards appropriate registration in that speciality they are required to do a requisite amount of general training at an intern level. This shows a lack of understanding of:
 - a. The experience level of the OTD in this speciality and;
 - b. The experience that this OTD will have had in the basic specialities by exposure in current training at a higher level.
- An OTD is either classified at a Registrar level or at a PHO level by this current registration process. This totally ignores the level of responsibility of the current job an OTD is performing at that time. So we could have an OTD working and having the responsibility at a Registrar level for several years but like many Australian trainees may not have passed the relevant specialist exam and are therefore classified as a PHO by this rigid system. This is despite the fact that they are performing the same tasks and have the same responsibilities as an Australian graduate.

I look forward to your attention to addressing the insight less rigidity of the current system which seems to be to clinicians merely an administrative response to past supervisory and administrative failures in registration processes.

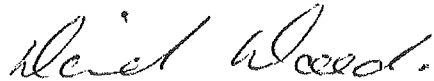
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Thank you for giving us the opportunity to prepare a submission to your committee on an issue which we feel very strongly is extremely dysfunctional and managed with a lack of insight into the issues.

Yours sincerely



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