



Competition regulator to appear before Overseas Trained Doctors Inquiry

The House of Representatives Health and Ageing Committee will hold a public hearing on 20 September 2011 in Canberra to discuss an Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's (ACCC) review of Australian specialist medical colleges.

Committee Chair, Steve Georganas MP said 'The ACCC's reported in 2005, making 20 recommendations aimed at increasing the transparency and accountability of Australia's 16 specialist medical colleges. This hearing provides the Committee with an opportunity to hear from the ACCC and discuss the review's findings as they relate to the Committee's inquiry into accreditation and registration processes for overseas trained doctors (OTDs).'

'The hearing will assist the Committee to ascertain the extent to which the ACCC's recommendations have been acted on, and whether the 2010 changes which saw the advent of the Australian Health Practitioner's Regulation Agency have improved the way in which colleges train and assess international medical graduates.' Mr Georganas added.

Ways to remove impediments and promote pathways for OTD's to achieve full Australian qualification, particularly in regional areas, without lowering the necessary standards required by colleges and regulatory bodies are currently being explored by the Committee.

PROGRAM

12:00pm	Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
12:30pm	Close

The hearing will be held in Committee Room 1R3, Parliament House CANBERRA

The hearing will be webcast live on: <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/>

Observers welcome to attend

For media comment, contact Hannah Frank from the Office of Steve Georganas on (08) 8376 9000.
For all other enquiries, contact the Committee Secretariat by phone on (02) 6277 4145 or visit the Committee's website: www.aph.gov.au/haa.