

Submission No. 161

(Overseas Trained Doctors)

Date: 17/08/2011

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To The House Standing Committee on Health & Ageing
Australian Government
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**SUBMISSION TO PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY INTO REGISTRATION
PROCESSES AND SUPPORT FOR OVERSEAS TRAINED DOCTORS**

My name is Dr Mulavana Usha Parvathy, I am myself an IMG and have been practising in Hunter area for the past 26 years. I am the Director of the International Medical Graduate (IMG) Program for Hunter New England Health. In this role I have been involved with supervising IMGs. I organise targeted orientation and ongoing education and pastoral care for them. Our program "Setting them up to Succeed" has won the Baxter Award and the Ministers Award.

I also work as a General Practitioner in the Hunter Area and as a conjoint senior lecturer with the Discipline of General Practice. I am an external clinical teacher with the GP Training Program – Valley to Coast and IMGs are part of this training program. I am involved with undergraduate and post-graduate teaching and have also been involved with the Innovative Program of "Workplace Based Assessment".

I would like to talk to the committee regarding the major issues which IMGs face.

- Lack of co-ordination during recruitment
- Lack of timely and targeted orientation for IMGs
- Lack of adequate ongoing funding
- Lack of support for the families of the IMGs ie: medicare and school fees for children

I request to appear before the committee to present my personal experiences with working with IMGs over the past six years.

Yours sincerely

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