

ADTOA

AUSTRALIAN DOCTORS TRAINED OVERSEAS ASSOCIATION

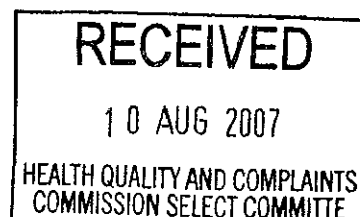
Registration: NSW Y 2255725 & ACN 0824198430

10 August 2007

Health, Quality and Complaints Commission Select Committee
Queensland Parliament

Attn: Ms Sheridan Groth

Facsimile No: 07 3406 7509



Dear Ms Groth

Our organisation's concerns relate to two issues as outlined below:-

1. The relatively easier assessment process temporary resident overseas trained doctors undergo as compared to permanent residents. As our organisation represents basically permanent resident overseas trained doctors, we cannot help but complain about the lack of equality in treatment and cannot help but notice that the majority of problems have been with temporary residents.
2. Although it doesn't receive the same level of coverage by the media, the lack of doctors and the consequential delay in treatment can and does cause complications with many patients. I believe in terms of numbers of patients adversely effected, this is a far more serious problem as compared to mistakes in treatment.

I attach a copy of a letter dated 19 July 2007 from the Hon. S Robertson MP, Minister for Health re the policy of prioritising placements of interns. We certainly contend that the policy constitutes unlawful racial discrimination. But as well it leaves AMC graduates with no choice but:

1. Look for an intern position interstate
2. Leave Australia
3. Give up medicine

We cannot comprehend this policy (which basically effects permanent residents who wish to make Queensland/Australia their home) and without a doubt has a detrimental effect upon long term solutions to the shortage of doctors.

Yours faithfully,

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Andrew Schwartz, President

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