

Question on Notice

No. 1350

Asked on 27 October 2021

MR S ANDREW ASKED THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES (HON Y D'ATH)—

QUESTION

With reference to International Medical Graduates (IMGs)—

Will the Minister advise (a) how many IMGs are currently working in Queensland Hospitals (provide both as a total number and as a percentage of the State's total medical practitioner cohort) (b) how many IMGs are currently working at the Mackay Base Hospital (provide both as a total number and as a percentage of the State's total medical practitioner cohort) and (c) the total number of IMGs who have been engaged by Queensland Hospitals since 1 January 2020?

ANSWER

With respect to the Member's questions, I have been advised as follows:

- (a) The total number of International Medical Graduates (IMGs) employed in Queensland's Hospital and Health Services as at 31 December 2020 was 534. This was approximately 4.43 per cent of Queensland Health's total medical workforce at that time. Note their commencement dates would vary – that is, 2018, 2019 and 2020.
- (b) Mackay Base Hospital employed 44 IMGs as at 31 December 2020 which was approximately 0.36 per cent of Queensland Health's total medical workforce at that time. Note their commencement dates would vary – that is, 2018, 2019 and 2020.
- (c) The total number of IMGs first granted registration for employment in Queensland and subsequently commenced employment with Queensland Health for the first time during the period January 2020 to December 2020 was 399.

Data Caveats:

- The data definition for an IMG within this data set are those medical practitioners who held limited or provisional registration with the Medical Board of Australia (MBA) by virtue of the fact that they were not yet eligible for either general or specialist registration with the MBA. Once a limited or provisional registrant obtains general or specialist registration, they are no longer referred by Queensland Health as an IMG as they have obtained a relevant Australian qualification to become eligible for those categories of registration.
- The data sources were the Decision Support Service (DSS), Australian Health Practitioners Regulation Agency (Ahpra) and the Department of Health HR informatics monthly MOHRI medical headcount reports. A manual verification process is undertaken using these three sources.

- The data above is point in time data as at 31 December 2020. Data which will include IMGs engaged in 2021 will be available in early 2022.