

INTERIM REGULATION

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1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

- 1.1 A Specialist International Medical Graduate (SIMG) is a doctor who has undertaken a specialist surgical training program outside Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand and is seeking to be assessed for comparability to a newly graduated Australian and Aotearoa New Zealand trained surgeon.
- 1.2 The purpose of this document is to also provide a clear outline on pathways to RACS fellowship.
- 1.3 The Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) assesses SIMGs for comparability to an Australian or Aotearoa New Zealand trained surgeon on behalf of the Medical Board of Australia (MBA) and Te Kaunihera Rata o Aotearoa - Medical Council of New Zealand (MCNZ).
- 1.4 When assessing a SIMG for comparability, RACS will consider the SIMGs intended scope of
 - 3.1. Recency of Practice
 - 3.1.1 A SIMG will be regarded as having recent clinical practice if they have documented evidence that demonstrates that they have worked consistently in the relevant surgical specialty, typically for a minimum of 12 months in the past 24 months with a significant number of cases as primary operator.
 - 3.2. Specialist Surgical Training
 - 3.2.1. In making the assessment of comparability of specialist surgical training, RACS will identify the comparability of the formal accredited training program completed by the SIMG to the SET program (including AOA 21). Training programmes can be comparable even if different.
 - 3.2.2. The key features of the RACS SET program are:
 - Accreditation by an external agency
 - Rotations through a range of hospitals and units
 - Exposure to the teaching and practice of multiple surgeons

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- Teaching (technical and non-technical skills) and Assessment (both formative and summative) based on the RACS competencies.
- Involvement in the care of patients throughout the patient's journey
- Supervised operating to develop competence in a range of procedures.
- A research requirement
- Completion of relevant technical and non-technical skills courses
- An exit examination

3.2.3.

RACS relies on documentation provided by the SIMG to demonstrate comparability of their education and training. RACS is not obliged to assume comparability where evidence is not provided, or to actively seek additional inform-12.3 (an)-1221.1 (or)-6.3 (m).1 (s)-8 12.2 (de)-3 (mmat)-13.(orpp1 (ge)-1e

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of 24 months FTE practice, taking into consideration the SIMGs intended scope of practice as well as their previous training and assessment, recent specialist practice, experience and CPD, they will be judged as partially comparable.

- a. A SIMG assessed as partially comparable will be required to undertake up to a maximum of 24 months FTE of supervised practice, with supervisors approved by RACS. They may be required to satisfactorily complete further training and workplace-based assessments and may be required to undertake the Fellowship

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