

Li Min Hall

3 October 2011

Board of Chinese Medicine, Australia
AHPRA

Dear Members of the Board,

SUBMISSION – GRANDPARENTING REGULATION STANDARD: TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR QUALIFICATIONS (SEPT 2011)

I wish to make a personal submission to the board in regard to the registration of Traditional Chinese Medicine practitioners.

My Name is Li Min Hall, I practice Traditional Chinese Medicine in my own business in Cardiff, near Newcastle, NSW. I have other qualifications in addition to my Advanced Diploma in Traditional Chinese Medicine, which I gained in 2009:

I have a Diploma of Nursing from China

I have a Certificate of Acupuncture and Massage from China

I have a Diploma of Remedial Massage from Australia

I have 10 years community based Child Care experience with appropriate qualifications from Australia

I have a current Senior First Aid certificate from Australia

I have a TAFE certificate in English language, in reading, writing and computer skills

All of these qualifications are in addition to my Advanced Diploma in Traditional Chinese Medicine

I am currently studying the Bachelor degree in Health Science in Traditional Chinese Medicine at the University of Technology Sydney. My Advanced Diploma in Traditional Chinese Medicine gave me advanced standing in this degree.

I submit to the board that my qualifications are current, thorough and relevant. My practice is also current and meets all the prerequisites for insurance (Marsh Pty Ltd) registration with ANTA, FCMA, ATMS, and previously with AACMA.

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My practice also meets local government standards required of all health practitioners and the requirements made by various health insurances that enable clients to claim rebates (Medibank Private, MBF, BUPA, NIB, Manchester Unity, Australia Unity etc).

I ask the board to include myself and all recent graduates with an Advanced Diploma in Traditional Chinese Medicine who are currently practicing to be considered for registration.

I find the grandparent clause to be loosely applied and the 2008 graduation date to be too preclusive.

Many practitioners, including myself will be greatly disadvantaged, to the point of active discrimination, if the board does not broaden the perimeters of registration.

Ideally registration (like car registration) is dealt with case by case, application by application, based on currency of qualification and actual practice.

I have met all the criteria required to insure and run a business and this has been at considerable expense. I do not expect the Government Health Authority to close my business by not registering me as an appropriate practitioner without entitling me to some form of compensation for money lost on my investment in my qualifications and incurred through the establishment of my business.

A 2012 cut off date would give current Advanced Diploma students time to complete their basic qualifications without loss of opportunity or wasting their time and money.

I submit to the board that the draft document needs to be rewritten to accommodate the needs of the practitioners in NSW, and not just copy the Victorian legislation.

Many people will be disadvantaged, unjustly, if the Government introduces a blanket format for registration. Practitioners of TCM need to be scrutinized in the same way that Western Medicines practitioners are.

I thank you for your time and consideration.

Li Min Hall