

Mon 10/10/2011

Dear ladies and gentlemen in Chinese Medicine Board of Australia:

Thanks for your wonderful work on the legislation on acupuncture and traditional Chinese medicine(TCM) here in Australia.

I do appreciate mostly the registration standards esp. grandparenting arrangements in the preliminary draft. In spite of that, could I have suggestions based on the real situation of acupuncture and TCM in Australia and personal experience here?

1. Could the demand of IELTS score be changed to 6.5 or less?

Of course it is very important that a qualified acupuncturist is able to communicate with clients smoothly, but the most important thing is clients can be relieved from their pain. So can I say professional skill is the determinant of the survival and development of this industry? At the moment acupuncturists and TCM from Asia has played an important role. If they are requested too high scores in IELTS, they would be excluded and the professional level of the whole industry would be influenced negatively.

2. Could there have an official and professional authentication for acupuncturist and TCM professionals?

From my clients I learned some phsio, chiropractor or remedial massagers also do acupuncture for their clients. I am not in the position to comment on their professional levels, but could I suggest a more careful assessment on educational experience (eg. What courses learned) and professional skills (acupuncture is used as first treatment instead of an assistance).of the registration applicants so real qualified acupuncturist and TCM professionals could be registered?

3. Last but not the least, could I ask for a consideration on new immigrant group especially the state sponsored immigrants (475 visa)?

Since those state sponsored acupuncturists and TCM professionals can apply and get approval from the government to immigrate with their career background, they must have reached the demand such as educational and working experience plus language qualification of a professional in this industry here. Can that be taken into account in assessing applicants who want to be registered? Eg, in assessing educational experience VETSSSESS is also be considered in spite of NOOSR?

Thanks for your time.

Your sincerely

Yong Sun

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