

Thu 6/10/2011

Dear Sir/Madam

I am an acupuncturist of 20+ year experience and a current member (Fellow) of AACMA. As such, I am concerned with the grandparenting clauses in the Draft Registration Standards. It concerns me that the draft standards require such a level of education given that when I graduated in 1989, these standards of education were not available. I have been a member of AACMA continually since joining as a student in 1988 and have maintained my membership and Indemnity Insurance since that time.

The other points of concern include the following:-

- Australian-trained practitioners applying for registration under the national scheme should not be put to a higher grandparenting standard than applied under the Victorian scheme;
- All government/university-accredited qualifications at least three years full-time equivalent duration should be included on the list of courses deemed adequate for grandparenting, and that this include the past advanced diploma and diploma level programs;
- Unaccredited programs that were recognised by AACMA as meeting the requirements for practice at that time should also be included on the list of courses deemed adequate for grandparenting, and that this include the past practitioner diploma and unaccredited bachelor programs;
- The list submitted by the AACMA of Australian Chinese medicine programs deemed adequate for grandparenting purposes should be included on the CMBA list of courses deemed adequate for grandparenting purposes. This is of the utmost importance because over the past 20 years it has been the AACMA that has been our governing body and the body which has ensured a very high standard of education and continuing education (CPE)

As a practitioner of such long standing, it deeply concerns me that consultation with the practicing body has not been forthcoming prior to now and that the national scheme is not being viewed on the **SAME** footing as the Victorian Scheme. IT SHOULD NOT BE AT A HIGHER STANDARD OF AN ALREADY EXISTING SCHEME.

Yours faithfully

Patricia M McNab

AACMA #300