

Via Email on 8/1/2012
By G. Vaughan

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed registration standard for Supervised Practice.

I agree with a fixed and consistent time period to be completed by new graduates of a three year degree. Logic dictates that this should be reduced for graduates completing a four year degree since they have completed more practical work during their university time.

My concern is for individuals applying for registration after not holding general registration for a period of three years or more. Firstly, three years is a relatively long time period for someone who has only practiced for one year and a short time period for someone who has practiced for ten years. Maybe the length of time without registration should not be a fixed number of years, rather the ratio of years of practice compared with years of absence up to a limit of five years or so.

Furthermore, this group of people have very different circumstances to new graduates and should be dealt with accordingly. Points that need to be considered include:

- The length of time practicing before cessation of work
- The amount and variation of practice completed before cessation of work
- The length of time out of work
- What is required of them in their new position

One way to assess each individual after a period of absence could be a standardised theory examination in conjunction with a short period of supervised practice until a certain level of competency is attained.

Obviously someone who has practiced for fifteen years and returns to work after five years would have a very different skill set to someone who has only practiced for four years and wishes to return to practice after a longer period. Therefore the supervised practice time taken to achieve competency will also vary.

One other topic I wish to address is the definition of **Practice**. I agree with the definition as outlined in the consultation paper and believe that my role in Medical Imaging Sales as a Territory Manager fulfils this criteria. However, I would just like further clarification as to whether the board would include people like myself. I attend conferences including many talks related to the modalities, equipment and products that I deal with on a day-to-day basis, keep my CPD up-to-date and attend clinical departments sometimes in a training or advisory role.

Once again, thank you for the chance to comment.