



Medical Radiation Practice
Board of
Australia

SUPERVISED PRACTICE REGISTRATION STANDARD

June 2014

SUPERVISED PRACTICE REGISTRATION STANDARD

Authority

This standard has been approved by the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council on 11 April 2014 pursuant to the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory (the National Law). This registration standard will commence on 1 November 2014.

Summary

Practitioners may be required to undertake supervised practice by the Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia (the Board).

Supervised practice enables practitioners to provide medical radiation services under the supervision of a medical radiation practitioner who holds general registration.

Practitioners must hold a type of registration issued by the Board to undertake a program of supervised practice required to attain general registration or to satisfy conditions of their registration.

The level of supervised practice may vary over time, but will be determined by the principal supervisor and approved by the Board.

Scope of application

This standard may apply to any of the following categories of registrant who are required to complete a program of supervised practice by the Board:

- a) provisional registrants
- b) practitioners with conditions requiring a program of supervised practice
- c) practitioners returning to practice in accordance with the National Board's *Recency of practice registration standard* requiring a program of supervised practice
- d) practitioners holding limited registration for postgraduate training or supervised practice, and

- e) practitioners holding qualifications obtained overseas requiring a program of supervised practice.
- f) This standard does not apply to students.

Requirements

A practitioner required by the Board to complete a program of supervised practice will:

- a) practise under the supervision of a medical radiation practitioner who holds general registration without conditions that would impact on the provision of supervised practice
- b) undertake a program of supervised practice as determined by the Board
- c) complete the program of supervised practice in order to be eligible for
 - general registration, or
 - the removal of conditions relating to supervised practice
- d) undertake an examination or assessment approved by the Board, when required by the Board or its delegate
- e) practise in accordance with supervised practice guidelines approved and published from time to time by the Board
- f) undertake supervised practice regularly and consistently and complete the program of supervised practice within the timeframe set by the Board
- g) if required by the Board or its delegate, undertake continuing professional development in accordance with the Board's *Continuing professional development registration standard*, and
- h) be supervised in circumstances in which the level of supervision provided is appropriate to the skills and experience of the supervised practitioner.

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To be approved as a principal supervisor, a medical radiation practitioner must:

- a) hold general registration without conditions that would impact on the provision of supervised practice
- b) hold general registration for a minimum of two years in the same division of registration as the supervised practitioner, and
- c) provide supervision in accordance with guidelines developed by the Board.

Important notice:

At all times the principal supervisor will be responsible for ensuring appropriate supervision arrangements are in place to enable the provision of safe health services by a supervised practitioner.

The principal supervisor will ensure that the needs of the supervised practitioner are paramount in determining the level of supervision. The level of supervision provided may include direct, indirect and/or remote supervision in accordance with the Board's supervised practice guidelines.

A supervised practitioner cannot practise as a sole practitioner.

Graduates of an approved program of study that fully meet the approved accreditation standards relevant to clinical education and student clinical placements are qualified to apply for general registration and are not required to undertake supervised practice.

Definitions

Continuing professional development means those activities defined in the approved *Continuing professional development registration standard* and accompanying guidelines.

Practitioner means a medical radiation practitioner.

Principal supervisor means the practitioner designated to provide or coordinate formal supervision and

evaluation to a supervised practitioner, including ensuring appropriate learning experiences and opportunities are offered throughout the prescribed program of supervision.

Program of supervised practice means the formal program of supervision and evaluation to be undertaken by the supervised practitioner and may include requirements relating to content, time or any other requisite considered necessary by the National Board.

Provisional registration means that which is determined by Division 3 of the National Law.

Sole practitioner means a medical radiation practitioner working as the only provider (sole practitioner) of medical radiation services. Sole practitioners work independently and do not have ready face to face access to other medical radiation practitioners for professional and peer advice or support. This practice is not suitable for practitioners under supervision.

Supervised practitioner means a medical radiation practitioner who holds:

- provisional registration
- limited registration for postgraduate training or supervised practice, or
- general registration with conditions requiring supervised practice

who must practise under the supervision of a medical radiation practitioner holding general registration without conditions that would impact on the provision of supervised practice.

Supervision means the formal process of professional support and learning which enables a practitioner under supervision to develop knowledge, skills and professional attributes, assume responsibility for their own practice, and enhance public protection and safety.

As the supervised practitioner gains competence, the level of supervision can change as determined appropriate by the supervising practitioner.

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Levels of supervised practice may include:

- d) **direct supervision:** when the supervisor is present on the premises, observes and works with the supervised practitioner and takes direct and principal responsibility for individual patients
- e) **indirect supervision:** when the supervisor is easily contactable and is available to observe and discuss clinical management with the supervised practitioner in the presence of the patient/client, with the supervised practitioner progressing to independent practice
- f) **remote/off-site supervision:** when the supervisor is contactable to discuss clinical activities but is not on the premises or required to directly observe or participate in patient clinical management; however, it does not include sole practice arrangements. At this level, the supervised practitioner takes increasing responsibility for their practice.

Supervision of the supervised practitioner can be provided by more than one supervisor.

Supervisor means any practitioner holding general registration without conditions that would impact on the provision of supervised practice. All supervisors must provide supervision in accordance with guidelines published by the National Board.

Practice means any role, whether remunerated or not, in which the individual uses their skills and knowledge as a health practitioner in their profession. For the purposes of this registration standard, practice is not restricted to the provision of direct clinical care. It also includes working in a direct nonclinical relationship with clients; working in management, administration, education, research, advisory, regulatory or policy development roles; and any other roles that impact on safe, effective delivery of services in the profession and/or use their professional skills.

Review

Date of issue: 2 June 2014

Date of review: The Board will review this standard at least every three years from the date of commencement.