Dear AHPRA,

Thank you for the opportunity to be able to comment on criminal history checks for international applicants.

As a recruitment agency that deals solely with medical recruitment, the best option for us would be: "Option 4: Applicant makes declaration and AHPRA undertakes random sample audits."

The reason we feel this option would be best is because the registration process in itself is a lengthy process and to request that an application is submitted with the relevant police clearances would only prolong the doctors from commencing work, leaving the hospitals and Private Practices with dire shortages.

Some Countries require that police checks are completed in person, (such as China) and if the doctor is no longer in that Country, it is almost impossible for them to obtain these checks.

One of our initial processes once a doctor contacts us is to complete a rigorous screening and credentialing check, therefore we feel that we will be representing doctors that are not of a concern. We do however feel that it is essential to have the doctors sign a declaration to confirm they do not have a criminal history as well as to confirm that they are aware that random audits will be carried out by AHPRA.

Thank you very much.

Kind Regards,

S Darbison