Response to AHPRA Public consultation paper on international criminal history checks

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the international criminal history checks consultation paper. Given that the largest cohort of overseas applicants for Chinese medicine will be from the People’s Republic of China we believe that option 2 is the most practical option for APHRA.

According to the Character Requirements document (DIC), China has a specific process for a Notary Certificate of No Criminal Convictions. The applicant must

- apply in person to the local police station in China for a No Criminal Convictions Certificate (NCCC) then
- apply in person at the Notary Public Office in the province/city/district of your previous residence in China with the NCCC for the Notary Certificate of No Criminal Convictions.

This is a two stage process that APHRA cannot undertake as it has to be conducted in person by the applicant on site in China.

For South Korean, Japanese, Taiwanese applicants as well as those from other countries the criminal checks can be undertaken by APHRA and does not entail an in person on site application as China requires.

Therefore the only option available to Chinese medicine applicants will be option 2 – “Applicant provides criminal history clearance evidence with applications”.