



Pharmacy Council of New South Wales

Level 6 North Wing 477 Pitt Street Sydney NSW 2000

Locked Bag 20 Haymarket NSW 1238

Phone: 1300 197 177 Fax: (02) 9281 2030

Email: mail@pharmacycouncil.nsw.gov.au

Online: www.pharmacycouncil.nsw.gov.au

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency
G.P.O. Box 9958
Melbourne VIC 3001

By email: criminalhistoryconsult@ahpra.gov.au

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) Public consultation paper on international criminal history checks

Submission by the Pharmacy Council of New South Wales

The Pharmacy Council of New South Wales is the statutory body responsible for managing complaints and notifications related to the conduct, performance or health of pharmacists practising in NSW and NSW pharmacy students. The Council also manages the regulation of NSW pharmacy businesses.

The Pharmacy Council has considered the *Public consultation paper on international criminal history checks* released by AHPRA and provides the following comments:

The Council's objectives in relation to the issue of international criminal history checking are to protect the public and to ensure a timely application and assessment process. The Council acknowledges that no process is fool proof and there is an option for misrepresentation by individuals and / or authorities.

While Council considers Option 3 to be the most secure, it would be costly and time consuming.

Council therefore suggests Option 4 is the best option – applicant makes a declaration and AHPRA undertakes a random sample audit – provided the sample is of significant size, the audit is conducted in a timely fashion and is conducted across all professions.

Option 3 could be implemented in the future if the random audit process reveal problems.

Submitted by:

The Pharmacy Council of New South Wales
Locked Bag 20 Haymarket NSW 1238

Contact:

Nina Beeston
Executive Officer

1 August 2012