Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the proposed options on how to process international criminal history checks for internationally qualified practitioners applying for registration with one of the 14 National Boards in the National Scheme.

Please find responses from Pharmaceutical Services, NSW Ministry of Health below:

1. **Is the proposed new approach the best option?**

   “Option 5: External provider conducts international criminal history checks” is supported and considered to be the best option to achieve the required outcome.

2. **Is the proposed approach clear?**

   The proposed approach is clear.

3. **Are there any risks or issues about the proposed process that need more consideration?**

   No unidentified risks or issues.

4. **Should international criminal history checks be conducted for countries where applicants have spent three months or more, or six months or more?**

   No comment

5. **Do you have any other comments?**

   The validity of a health practitioner’s legal authority to supply, obtain, possess or prescribe medicines in an international jurisdiction may not necessarily be determined by a criminal history check or by the provision of a ‘Certificate of Registration Status’ or ‘Certificate of Good Standing’. This may be of concern should the health practitioner’s legal authority to supply, obtain, possess or prescribe medicines be withdrawn by a governing organisation such as the jurisdiction’s Health Department under their Drugs and Poisons or similar legislation.
Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have further queries regarding this or any other matter.

With Regards

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