As usual a blanket rule would be ridiculous. Consideration should be given of the home language of the doctor. Doctors whose mother tongue is either English or Afrikaans and who have passed English at matriculation level should not need to be tested. The majority of doctors whose mother tongue is one of the many African languages are also fully bilingual even before they go to university to study medicine. All doctors who qualified at universities with English as teaching language would also be proficient in English.

The chosen language of the science community is English. The only doctors I would be uncertain about are ones who did NOT obtain their basic degree in South Africa, but immigrated there AFTER qualifying as a doctor.

Yours faithfully
Dr Johanna Muller