

Consultation paper on registration standards and related matters – comments

Section 2.1 Criminal history

- the standard should be more flexible this is too prescriptive
- the word or client should be added

Section 2.2 English language skills

- standard should apply to entry-to-practice students and postgraduate students and this needs to be clarified
- OET is considered acceptable provider, however they need to ensure that midwifery is also included in the professions for which the course is catered
- IELTS – more than two years should not be accepted – they need to complete requirements within two years in all domains.
- Yes clarify the secondary education
- Remove list of countries

Section 2.3 Professional indemnity insurance

Scope of application The term **midwife practitioner** is a title that is not supported by WA Health. A midwife is already recognised as a practitioner in their own right, therefore the term practitioner is superfluous to this profession. The WHO recognises the midwife as “a responsible and accountable professional who works in partnership with women to give the necessary support, care and advice during pregnancy, labour and the postpartum period, to conduct births on the midwife’s own responsibility and to provide care for the newborn and infant”.

All references to this term need to be removed as it is not supported by all states and territories.

- Point 5 requires clarification

Section 2.4 Continuing professional development

Requirements - consider changing *participate in at least 20 hours* to demonstrate a minimum of 20 hours

Section 3 Proposals for board-specific standards

Refer to above in relation to term midwife practitioner

Section 3.2 Requirements for midwives (delete *practitioner*)

Qualifications - WA Health does not support the requirement for midwives to have master’s degree in order to be *eligible* under the act. Midwives are already practitioners in their own right. It is agreed that midwives need to be prepared for the enhanced role under the new framework and this may include education programs that legitimise this role to provide the skill and knowledge necessary for the ordering and

interpretation of a limited range of tests required for the assessment for normal pregnancy and the use. Therefore it is recommended that *master's degree* be changed to qualification obtained from an approved education program - ? this could be delegated to the minister of health via the regulations.

Section 3.3 Assessment against the procedures for development of registration standards

It is necessary to restrict access to the endorsements to very experienced practitioners in the interests of public safety.

Comment [h1]: Clarify what this means define as minimum years of relevant experience

Section 4 Proposals for endorsements

The board has the option of developing endorsements of a health practitioner's registration in the following areas:

- scheduled medicines
- area of practice - include radiology/pathology/ workers compensation
- acupuncture. – and complimentary therapies