

Re Consultation.

As Barwon Health administers approximately 40 IMGs on limited medical registration a year and they are essential to fill training gaps at registrar level, any process that delays the ability for them to start work would severely compromise our services and training programs for more junior Australia medical staff.

Having said that, it is believed that they should meet at least in spirit, the same standards required of local Australian Graduates for criminal history checks. However, the ability to meet this requirement will certainly depend upon where they are from, conditions in that jurisdiction and the reasons they are seeking to leave that jurisdiction. In many places doctors are under duress and persecution. Hence while option one would guarantee speedy processing, it totally relies on the honesty of the individual.

Options 2 and 3 would add significant time to the process and may be very difficult for some, depending upon the jurisdiction they are from, especially if they are refugees from persecution.

Hence option 4 is favoured and provides some incentive for being honest, while allowing for some flexibility in relation to those jurisdictions where social norms vary dramatically with those in Australia.

Yours sincerely,

Dr R Fawcett