

## Communiqué

7 May 2012

### English language skills

The Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia (the Board) announced in its news release on 2 April 2012 that it has determined that some practitioners may qualify for special conditions that will allow them to register without undertaking one of the prescribed English language examinations described in the Board's English language skills registration standard.

The special conditions uphold the requirements of the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law* (the National Law) as in force in each state and territory while recognising the circumstances of experienced practitioners from previously unregulated jurisdictions.

### What does this mean?

Practitioners who have practised in Australia (or one of the other countries listed in the Boards' English language skills standard) for five years **or more** in the last 10 years, or who have previously completed an approved assessment through a professional body that involved a period of supervised practice including an assessment of the practitioner's English language skills, may qualify for the conditions.

The conditions will require these practitioners to **nominate a referee** who can confirm their ability to communicate effectively in English for the purpose of professional practice. Further details on who may be a referee and the required **English language Referee Tool** are now available on the Board's website: [www.medicalradiationpracticeboard.gov.au](http://www.medicalradiationpracticeboard.gov.au)

For practitioners who have practised in Australia (or one of the other countries listed in the Board's English language skills standard) for **less than five years** in the last 10 years, the Board will consider special conditions to allow them to practise under a Board-approved supervisory arrangement for 12 months to allow them to sit and pass one of the required English language examinations specified in the Board's English language skills standard.

The conditions will require these practitioners to **nominate a supervisor**.

Further details on who may be a supervisor and the required **English language Supervisor Tool** are now available on the Board's website: [www.medicalradiationpracticeboard.gov.au](http://www.medicalradiationpracticeboard.gov.au)

### What does a practitioner do?

Practitioners must have their applications in, before AHPRA can assess each individual application to advise whether they qualify for these special conditions and what will be required of them.

Any practitioner who has yet to submit a completed application is encouraged to do so as soon as possible, to minimise the risk of disruptions to their practice on 1 July 2012.

Neil Hicks

Chair

7 May 2012