

Subject: feedback on proposed standards, recency of practice.

-----Original Message-----

From: Trent Ramsay [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 19 January 2018 1:41 PM
To: paramedicine
Subject: feedback on proposed standards, recency of practice.

1. From your perspective, does the proposed standard adequately fulfil the Board's requirements to set out the requirements for the nature, extent, period and recency of any previous practice by practitioners applying for initial registration in the profession? I believe despite my comments below that I believe the 450 hours in 3 years should be extended to 450 hours in 5 years I believe strongly for the initial registration process this should at least be the case. This is particularly relevant for many good and competent paramedics that may not have practice up to 450 hours within the last 3 years. I believe this would take into consideration the new change registration has for many paramedics and allow them to adjust. I think this is especially important considering the final stages of paramedic registration has developed relatively quickly.
2. In the content of the proposed standard helpful, clear relevant and workable? yes
3. Do you have feedback about the proposal to introduce a minimum of 450 practice hours in the previous 3 years or 150 practice hours in the previous 12 months to meet recency of practice requirements? Yes I do. This is actually the only standard I believe should be different. Although a majority of the registered health professions follow these requirements, Nursing does not. They have the minimum as 450 hours within 5 years. This has shown to not increase the risk to patients. However the benefit of this is great. This is due to taking into consideration maternity and paternity leave including multiple children. The changing nature of the workforce where people enjoy a break from their profession. However I believe an important factor that is often overlooked is the growing number of people with dual or triple qualifications including: paramedics, nursing, and mid-wifery. These people may still be maintaining a clinical standard and still able to perform paramedic duties if required to a safe and appropriate level. However being able to maintain 450 hours within 3 years might not be achievable for a lot of people if they are focusing that 3 years on their other clinical profession. A paramedic who chooses to do further study in another health profession and maintain 450 hours in 3 years in the current set up of most ambulance services may be very difficult for them. Whilst if it was 450 hours in 5 years such as the nursing regulation this would allow paramedics to maintain other interests, peruse other clinical areas, whilst maintaining registration. I see the focus of paramedic registration to ensure safety of the public. However if 450 hours in 5 years has not been shown to be any more unsafe however allows good clinicians to easily continue to practice the paramedic profession then I see this as a very important section to reconsider during consult. It is often said that one of the most similar health professions to paramedics is nursing and I believe it would not be seen as unsafe to the public to follow their recency of practice approach as a result of some of the circumstances listed above.

--
Take care,

Trent Ramsay
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]