Public consultation on registration standard: English language skills

December 2017

Responses to consultation questions

**Please provide your confidential feedback as a Word document by email to** **paramedicine@ahpra.gov.au****by close of business on 8 February 2018.**

Stakeholder Details

*If you wish to include background information about your organisation please provide this as a separate Word document (not PDF).*

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| **Organisation name** |
| **Paramedical Services Pty Limited** |
| **Contact information** *(please include contact person’s name and email address)* |
| **Name: Dr Peter Mangles | e-mail:** [Content redacted] **| Cell Phone:** [Content redacted] |

| **Registration standard: English language skills***Please provide your responses to any or all questions in the blank boxes to the right of the question* |
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| 1. From your perspective, does the proposed standard adequately fulfil the Board’s requirements to set English language skills standards for the paramedicine profession?
 | All paramedics who practice paramedicine in Australia should have the necessary knowledge of English to communicate effectively so they do not put the safety of their patients at risk. Communicating includes speaking, reading, writing and listening. The proposed standards are adequate for paramedic registration. |
| 1. Is the content of the proposed registration standard helpful, clear, relevant and workable?
 | The content and the principles of EILTS testing are aligned to other discipline both in Australia and overseas. They are clear and concise and provide adequate explanation around what is required to be registered as a Paramedic in Australia. |
| 1. Is there any content that needs to be changed or deleted in the proposed registration standard?
 | Attention should be given to what is considered “qualifications or training in the professions”. It is noted that in the drafting that:*English is your* ***primary language*** *and you have undertaken and satisfactorily completed:*1. *all of your primary and* ***secondary education*** *which was taught and assessed solely in English in a* ***recognised country,*** *and*
2. ***qualifications******or training******in the profession****, which you are relying on to support your eligibility for registration under the* ***National Law****, which were taught and assessed solely in English.*

It is also noted in the draft definitions that:***Qualifications and training in the profession*** *means the qualifications you hold or the education and training you have undertaken to qualify you for registration as a paramedic in Australia. To meet this definition, the education and training you have undertaken must have a defined curriculum and formal assessment.*AHPRA should consider that all ASQA (vocational education) training programs are suitable for registration as ALL ASQA programs must be taught and assessed in English.  |
| 1. Is there anything missing that needs to be added to the proposed registration standard?
 | Nothing further is required other than what is documented in this response template.  |
| 1. Do you have any other comments on the proposed registration standard?
 | For AHPRA to accept an IELTS certificate it should show:* the applicant got a score of at least 7.0 in each testing area (speaking, listening, reading and writing), and an overall score of 7.5.
* the applicant got these scores in the same test
* the applicant took the academic version of the test
* the original stamp and test report form (TRF) number is validated
* the applicant obtained the scores in their most recent sitting of the test
* The IELTS certificates is valid for two years.
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