

Authority

This standard has been approved by the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council on 31 March 2010 pursuant to the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (2009)* (the National Law) with approval taking effect from 1 July 2010.

Summary

Pharmacists are required to maintain regular practice experience as part of the process of maintaining competence to practice and providing services to the public. To meet the recency of practice standard, pharmacists are required to have practised regularly and within the previous three years in their proposed area of practice.

Scope of application

An applicant for general registration or renewal of general registration, a person who did not lodge an application for registration within three years of completion of the requirements for initial general registration, or a pharmacist who intends to change their area of practice is required to demonstrate to the Board that he or she is competent to practise.

Requirements

1. Applicants who have not practised pharmacy for more than 450 hours within the previous three years or changed their area of practice are required to provide evidence to satisfy the Board of their current competence to practise. This may be in the form of evidence of supervised practice, completion of education courses, assessment and/or an examination.
2. The Board will determine the period of supervised practice, education program and assessment and/or examination to be undertaken by the applicant on an individual basis depending on:
 - a) when the applicant last practised in Australia
 - b) the nature of their practice as a pharmacist in another jurisdiction
 - c) activities undertaken during the period since the applicant last practised as a pharmacist in Australia.

Definitions

Practice means any role, whether remunerated or not, in which the individual uses their skills and knowledge

as a pharmacist in their profession. For the purposes of this registration standard, practice is not restricted to the provision of direct clinical care. It also includes working in a direct nonclinical relationship with clients; working in management, administration, education, research, advisory, regulatory or policy development roles; and any other roles that impact on safe, effective delivery of services in the profession and/or use their professional skills.

Recency of practice means that a practitioner has maintained recent practice in the profession since qualifying or obtaining registration.

References

The Board may publish guidelines with respect to recency of practice requirements.

The Board has published a 'Supervised practice arrangements' standard.

Review

This standard will commence on 1 July 2010. The Board will review this standard at least every three years.