

Executive summary 2017

Macquarie University's proposed medical program will reside in the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences. It will be a four-year graduate-entry Masters Degree (Extended) leading to a Doctor of Medicine (MD). The program proposes an intake of 60 fee-paying students (40 domestic and 20 international), commencing in 2018.

The medical program is distinctive in Australia as a significant component of learning occurs in a university-owned and operated teaching hospital and academic health sciences centre. The program aims to provide medical students with a quality assured international education, recognising the value of learning experiences outside Australia. To that end, the program plans to offer core clinical placements at the Apollo Hospital in Hyderabad, India.

Accreditation process

The AMC's *Procedures for Assessment and Accreditation of Medical Schools by the Australian Medical Council 2017* provide for education providers to seek assessment of proposed new medical programs.

The *Procedures* state at section 3.2.1 that institutions contemplating the establishment of a primary medical program should conduct independent negotiations with the appropriate state/territory and national authorities concerning student places and clinical facilities. If a decision is made by the relevant authorities to support the establishment of a new medical program, the AMC undertakes the assessment against the approved accreditation standards.

In establishing a new school, the education provider must submit a Stage 1 submission to the AMC. The AMC assesses the Stage 1 submission to determine if the planned program of study is likely to comply with the approved accreditation standards and if the education provider has demonstrated that it is able to implement the program.

The Macquarie University proposal is the first submission received by the AMC where the higher education provider proposing an offshore program component did not have an accredited medical program in Australia or New Zealand. Given the proposed program contains an offshore component, the AMC assessed the Stage 1 submission against the accreditation standards, along with the requirements for consideration of a medical program conducted offshore contained in the AMC policy *Primary medical programs provided offshore by Australian and/or New Zealand education providers*.

The AMC considered Macquarie's Stage 1 proposal in September 2016, and invited the Faculty to proceed to a Stage 2 assessment of the medical program.

When conducting a Stage 2 assessment, the AMC assesses the proposed program against the approved accreditation standards for primary medical education. An AMC team reviewed the Faculty's submission, and a written report from students enrolled in the Bachelor of Clinical Science and Doctor of Physiotherapy programs of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences.

An AMC team visited Macquarie University and associated future clinical teaching sites the week of 3 April 2017.

A sub-team travelled to Apollo Hospital, Hyderabad, India to undertake a site visit from 20 – 23 March 2017.

This report presents the AMC's findings against the *Standards for Assessment and Accreditation of Primary Medical Programs by the Australian Medical Council 2012*.

Decision on accreditation

Under the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law*, the AMC may grant accreditation if it is reasonably satisfied that a program of study and the education provider meet the accreditation standards. The AMC may also grant accreditation if the program of study and the education provider substantially meet the accreditation standards, and imposing accreditation conditions will lead to the program meeting the standards within a reasonable time.

Having made a decision, the AMC reports its accreditation decision to the Medical Board of Australia to enable the Board to make a decision on the approval of the program of study for registration purposes.

Accreditation of new education providers and / or programs

In accordance with the *Procedures for Assessment and Accreditation of Medical Schools by the Australian Medical Council 2017*, section 5.2, the accreditation options are:

- (i) Accreditation for a period up to one year after the full program has been implemented, subject to conditions being addressed within a specific period and depending on satisfactory annual progress reports. The conditions may include a requirement for follow-up assessments to review progress in implementing the program. In the year the accreditation ends, the education provider will submit a comprehensive report for extension of accreditation. Subject to a satisfactory report, the AMC may grant a further period of accreditation, up to the maximum possible period, before a new accreditation assessment.
- (ii) Accreditation will be refused where the education provider has not satisfied the AMC that it can implement and deliver the study at a level consistent with the accreditation standards. The AMC will give the education provider written notice of the decision and its reasons, and the procedures available for review of the decision within the AMC.

The AMC Medical School Accreditation Committee considered the draft report at its meeting of 2 June 2017. The Committee requested further information from the Faculty, expressed as a response to the proposed conditions listed below, prior to making an accreditation recommendation to the AMC Directors. The Faculty provided information on the points below to the AMC on 13 June 2017.

- Provide a detailed agreement with Apollo Hospital which outlines respective roles and responsibilities concerning the delivery of the 20 week core clinical placement at Apollo Hospital, Hyderabad.
- Confirm a formal agreement with Northern Sydney Local Health District (NSLHD) to support effective partnerships for delivery of the program, specifically clinical placements. (Standard 1.6)
- Provide a curriculum map outlining the Indigenous Health content. (Standard 3.5)

The Committee considered the program's progress on these items, and integrated the information provided into the findings of the accreditation report. The Committee then finalised its accreditation recommendations and conditions.

The AMC is satisfied that the medical program of Macquarie University, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences meets the approved accreditation standards.

The 23 June 2017 meeting of the AMC Directors agreed:

- (i) That the four-year graduate-entry Masters Degree (Extended) (MD) medical program of the Macquarie University, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences **be granted accreditation to 31 March 2023**; and
- (ii) That accreditation of the program is subject to meeting the monitoring requirements of the AMC, including satisfactory progress reports; a follow-up assessment in 2019 to assess the implementation of Years 1 and 2 and plans for Years 3 to 4; and to the following conditions:

By 6 October 2017

- Provide the finalised MD Program Handbook. (Standard 3.4)
- Provide specific learning objectives for Year 1. (Standard 3.4)
- Provide an update on the implementation of Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs) in capability-based assessment in the medical program. (Standard 5.2)
- Provide evidence that work is progressing on the Stage 2 assessment strategy. (Standard 5.2)
- Provide information on the implementation of monitoring and evaluation, specifically plans for the evaluation of the first year cohort. (Standard 6.1)
- Provide evidence that the draft fitness to practice policy has been approved through the appropriate University processes. (Standard 7.4)
- Provide further detail on student indemnification and insurance agreements, particularly for the Apollo Hospital and elective rotations. (Standard 7.6)

2018 conditions

- Develop a structure for the Apollo clinical school which details the interface with the Australian-based governance structures, and specifies the teaching, training and assessment expectations, funding, student indemnification and services commitment. (Standard 1.1)
- Confirm a formal agreement with Northern Sydney Local Health District (NSLHD) to support effective partnerships for delivery of the program, specifically clinical placements. (Standard 1.6)
- Provide the structure of clinical leads for each discipline in the Apollo clinical school, as well as at Royal North Shore Hospital to illustrate the interaction of clinical school leads with Macquarie University. (Standard 1.8)
- Provide an update on Year 3 placements in Paediatrics, and Obstetrics and Gynaecology. (Standard 3.2)
- Provide specific learning objectives for Year 2. (Standard 3.4)
- Provide a curriculum map for the Indigenous Health content. (Standard 3.5)
- Provide further detail on the selective and elective terms in Year 4. (Standard 3.6)
- Provide the Stage 2 assessment blueprint. (Standard 5.2)
- Provide updates on the operational aspects of monitoring and evaluation of the program. (Standard 6.1)
- Confirm the availability of appropriate accommodation for students while undertaking placements at Apollo Hospital. (Standard 8.1)
- Confirm the physical facilities available to medical students at Apollo Hospital. (Standard 8.1)

- Develop opportunities beyond Macquarie University Health Sciences Centre (MQ Health) for general practice experience. (Standard 8.3)
- Confirm opportunities for rural clinical experiences. (Standard 8.3)
- Develop opportunities for students to have experience in the provision of culturally competent health care to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. (Standard 8.3)
- Provide the plans to ensure well trained clinical teachers and supervisors at Apollo Hospital for the first cohort of students in 2020. (Standard 8.4)

Key findings

Under the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law* (the National Law), the AMC can accredit a program of study if it is reasonably satisfied that: (a) the program of study, and the education provider that provides the program of study, meet the accreditation standard; or (b) the program of study, and the education provider that provides the program of study, substantially meet the accreditation standard and the imposition of conditions will ensure the program meets the standard within a reasonable time.

The AMC uses the terminology of the National Law (meet/substantially meet the standards) in making decisions about accreditation programs and providers.

Conditions: Providers must satisfy conditions on accreditation in order to meet the relevant accreditation standard.

1. The context of the medical program	Substantially Met
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2018

Develop a structure for the Apollo clinical school which details the interface with the Australian-based governance structures, and specifies the teaching, training and assessment expectations, funding, student indemnification and services commitment. (Standard 1.1)

Confirm a formal agreement with Northern Sydney Local Health District (NSLHD) to support effective partnerships for delivery of the program, specifically clinical placements. (Standard 1.6)

Provide the structure of clinical leads for each discipline in the Apollo clinical school, as well as at Royal North Shore Hospital to illustrate the interaction of clinical school leads with Macquarie University. (Standard 1.8)

Commendations

The evident commitment of the University's Vice Chancellor and senior leadership to the implementation of a distinctive Doctor of Medicine (MD) program which will be embedded within MQ Health. (Standard 1.1)

The outstanding leadership of the Executive Dean, and the diverse and high quality expertise of the academic, professional and clinical staff associated with the medical program. (Standard 1.2)

The Faculty's aim to develop a distinctive educational experience, linking learning and translational research to clinical activities, which should be realised through the well- designed program. (Standard 1.4)

The expectation that clinicians employed by Macquarie University Clinical Associates (MUCA) collectively achieve key performance indicators across all three domains of teaching, clinical work and research. Some clinicians have clearly protected time for teaching and research in

addition to their clinical responsibilities, while others contribute to clinical teaching as part of their clinical activities. (Standard 1.9)

2. The outcomes of the medical program	Met
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No conditions or commendations

3. The medical curriculum	Substantially Met
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2017

Provide the finalised MD Program Handbook. (Standard 3.4)

Provide specific learning objectives for Year 1. (Standard 3.4)

2018

Provide an update on Year 3 placements in Paediatrics, and Obstetrics and Gynaecology. (Standard 3.2)

Provide specific learning objectives for Year 2. (Standard 3.4)

Provide a curriculum map for the Indigenous Health content. (Standard 3.5)

Provide further detail on the selective and elective terms in Year 4. (Standard 3.6)

Commendations

The Faculty's partnerships with Apollo Hospital, the MindSpot Clinic and the Northern Sydney Local Health District to provide clinical experiences. (Standard 3.2)

The interactive curriculum map completed for Year 1. (Standard 3.2)

4. Teaching and learning	Met
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Commendations

The Faculty's learning design team who, in collaboration with subject matter experts, provide impressive and innovative learning and teaching items. (Standard 4.1)

The opportunity for students to follow a patient from consultation through to treatment and discharge in Macquarie University Hospital allows the student to develop professional relationships with both patients and their families, and develop a holistic understanding of the patient and their needs. (Standard 4.4)

5. The curriculum - assessment of student learning	Substantially Met
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2017

Provide an update on the implementation of Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs) in capability-based assessment in the medical program. (Standard 5.2)

Provide evidence that work is progressing on the Stage 2 assessment strategy. (Standard 5.2)

2018

Provide the Stage 2 assessment blueprint. (Standard 5.2)

6. The curriculum - monitoring	Met
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2017

Provide information on the implementation of monitoring and evaluation, specifically plans for the evaluation of the first year cohort. (Standard 6.1)

2018

Provide updates on the operational aspects of monitoring and evaluation of the program. (Standard 6.1)

7. Implementing the curriculum - students	Met
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2017

Provide evidence that the draft fitness to practice policy has been approved through the appropriate University processes. (Standard 7.4)

Provide further detail on student indemnification and insurance agreements, particularly for the Apollo Hospital and elective rotations. (Standard 7.6)

Commendation

The Faculty's significant level of expertise and experience in admissions, and the significant evidence-based, quality focused approach throughout the proposed policy and processes. (Standard 7.2)

8. Implementing the curriculum - learning environment	Substantially Met
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2018

Confirm the availability of appropriate accommodation for students while undertaking placements at Apollo Hospital. (Standard 8.1)

Confirm the physical facilities available to medical students at Apollo Hospital. (Standard 8.1)

Develop opportunities beyond MQ Health for general practice experience. (Standard 8.3)

Confirm opportunities for rural clinical experiences. (Standard 8.3)

Develop opportunities for students to have experience in the provision of culturally competent health care to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. (Standard 8.3)

Provide the plans to ensure well trained clinical teachers and supervisors at Apollo Hospital for the first cohort of students in 2020. (Standard 8.4)

Commendations

The plans to provide excellent student accommodation for the students while at Apollo Hospital. (Standard 8.1)

The impressive service delivery model and outcomes of the MindSpot Clinic, and rich learning opportunities this clinic will offer students in mental health. (Standard 8.3)

The clinical learning opportunities available at Apollo Hospital, and the commitment of the hospital's clinicians and administrators to facilitate the student experience during this rotation. (Standard 8.3)