



Guidelines for appointment of obstetricians and gynaecologists to specialist positions in Australia and New Zealand

This statement has been developed and reviewed by the Women's Health Committee and approved by the RANZCOG Board and Council.

A list of Women's Health Committee Members can be found in [Appendix A](#).

Disclosure statements have been received from all members of this committee.

Disclaimer This information is intended to provide general advice to practitioners. This information

Background: This statement was first developed by Women's Health Committee in July 2007 and reviewed in March 2018.

Funding: The development and review of this statement was funded by RANZCOG.

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG) recommends that applicants for appointments to positions of a specialist Obstetrician and Gynaecologist in Australia or New Zealand, should:

- be registered as a Fellow of RANZCOG; or
- whose training and experience is 'substantially comparable to' a RANZCOG Fellow as assessed by the College; and
- be able to provide evidence of participation in relevant Continuing Professional Development (CPD) or Continuing Medical Education (CME) activities.

Where an applicant is not a RANZCOG Fellow and has not been previously assessed by the College, an assessment of training should be conducted by the College prior to employment.

In Australia the assessment is conducted by the Specialist International Medical Graduate (SIMG)/Area of Need (AoN) assessment process and may indicate a need for additional supervised training. Assessment is undertaken by RANZCOG at the request of the Australian Medical Council (AMC).

In New Zealand, the assessment is conducted by RANZCOG as an advisory body for the New Zealand Medical Council (NZMC). Pathways to vocational (specialist) registration by the NZMC are based mostly on advice from RANZCOG and may include additional supervised training. In addition, applicants must fulfill the criteria for registration as laid down by the New Zealand Medical Council.

RANZCOG recognises occasional practices which are contrary to the aforementioned pathways (for example in some rural areas in Australia and by the Medical Council in New Zealand) which bypass RANZCOG's involvement in the assessment process. RANZCOG considers alternative assessment pathways to registration as a specialist to be inappropriate and strongly recommends compliance with formal assessment pathways, which includes the RANZCOG assessment.

RANZCOG acknowledges that there will be workforce pressures (AoN in Australia and emergency locum appointments in New Zealand) that may on occasion make this guideline difficult to apply in practice. However, in order to maintain and improve the highest standards in the care of women in Australia and New Zealand, RANZCOG recommends

Links to related College Statements

Guidelines for locum positions in specialist obstetric and gynaecological practice in Australia and New Zealand (WPI 12)

http://www.ranzcog.edu.au/component/docman/doc_download/992-wpi-12-guidelines-for-locum-positions-in-specialist-obstetric-and-gynaecological-practice-in-anz.html

Evidence-based Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynaecology locyp-I 1Ge2.1-14(<http://www.ranzcog.edu.au/component/docman>

Appendices

Appendix A Women's Health Committee Membership

Name	Position on Committee
Professor Yee Leung Dr Joseph Sgroi	Chair

