27 May 2011

AMC Accreditation Update: May 2011

The Australian Medical Council (AMC) has recently completed assessments of two medical programs offered by medical schools in Australia.

AMC accreditation policy provides for the AMC to grant extensions of accreditation on the basis of satisfactory comprehensive reports and, in certain circumstances, on assessment visits.

Medical schools submit a comprehensive report in the year before their accreditation will expire. In the comprehensive report for extension of accreditation, the school is expected to provide evidence that it continues to meet the accreditation standards, and that it has maintained its standard of education and of resources. The report also provides an appraisal of developments since the last accreditation assessment, and information on developments planned leading up to the next AMC reaccreditation.

If the Medical School Accreditation Committee decides that the medical school and its program of study are likely to continue to satisfy the accreditation standards, it may recommend that the AMC Directors extend the medical school's accreditation. The period of extension possible is usually a period of three to four years, taking the school to the full period of accreditation which the AMC will grant between assessment visits, which is 10 years.

In May 2011 the AMC Directors found that the Medical Program of the **Bond University School of Medicine** meets the AMC accreditation standards. The program is granted an extension of accreditation by the maximum possible period, that is 4 years, until 31 December 2015, subject to the submission of satisfactory annual progress reports to the AMC Medical School Accreditation Committee.

In May 2011 the AMC Directors found that the Medical Program of the **University of Sydney, Sydney Medical School** meets the AMC accreditation standards. The program is granted an extension of accreditation by the maximum possible period, that is 4 years, until 31 December 2015, subject to the submission of satisfactory progress reports to the AMC Medical School Accreditation Committee.

The AMC presented the accreditation decisions noted above to the Medical Board of Australia for decision on the approval of the programs of study for registration purposes. The Medical Board of Australia details its decisions about accredited programs of study in communiqués published on its <u>website</u> following each meeting.