



16 July 2015

The Directors of the Australian Medical Council grant accreditation to the Flinders University, School of Medicine's medical programs to 31 March 2021

The Australian Medical Council is the national accreditation body for the medical profession. It has recently completed a reaccreditation assessment of the Flinders University, School of Medicine's medical programs.

The School of Medicine offers a four-year graduate entry medical program. In 2013, the University approved a change to the qualification awarded from Bachelor of Medicine / Bachelor of Surgery (BMBS) to Doctor of Medicine (MD), for both commencing and existing students. The medical program was last assessed by the AMC in 2010 following the School's major change proposal to deliver Years 1 and 2 in the Northern Territory, in addition to Years 3 and 4.

The program is based at Flinders Medical Centre in Adelaide, and the Northern Territory Medical Program is based at Charles Darwin University in Darwin. A strong relationship is evident between Flinders and Charles Darwin Universities in their shared delivery of the program in the Territory. The program is delivered at a diverse range of clinical and research settings across South Australia and the Northern Territory, and has a strong emphasis on rural and remote health.

The 2014 reaccreditation assessment team considered written material from the School and the Flinders Medical Student Society, and in October 2014 the team visited the School and associated clinical teaching sites in South Australia and the Northern Territory. The team met University representatives and School staff, students and clinicians, and prepared its report against the accreditation standards.

The AMC accreditation report finds that the program is supported by enthusiastic staff and clinicians. A major strength is the School's continued commitment to innovation in medical education and assessment, evidenced by its initiatives in a range of longitudinal clinical attachment models. Its commitment to review the medical program and evaluate initiatives is commended. The School has a strong focus on Indigenous health and rural and remote health, which is supported by meaningful engagement with local communities. The School offers excellent student support systems, including those for rural and Indigenous students.

At the time of the AMC assessment, a number of initiatives were still in planning, and the School will be required to report on them in the regular progress reports expected of all accredited medical schools. These include initiatives in the implementation of its Advanced Studies research theme, changes in student assessment, and the completion of its online systems for curriculum and assessment.

On the basis of the team's report, the AMC Directors 11 March 2015 meeting agreed that the medical programs of the Flinders University, School of Medicine meet the approved accreditation standards.

These programs are:

- Doctor of Medicine (MD)
- Bachelor of Medicine / Bachelor of Surgery (BMBS) (N.B. accreditation of the BMBS will cease 31 December 2017 following its teach-out)

Accreditation is granted to 31 March 2021 subject to conditions, as outlined in the 2014 executive summary (available [here](#)).

The AMC will continue to monitor the School's progress through reports on conditions and annual progress reports.

The AMC presents accreditation decisions and reports to the Medical Board of Australia to make a 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 [website](#) following each meeting.

Response from the Flinders University, School of Medicine on the 2014 AMC assessment

The Flinders School of Medicine would like to thank the many clinicians, health services and other organisations across Australia who partnered with its outstanding students and staff to deliver a course that is recognised for its responsiveness to community and health service needs, particularly for Indigenous peoples, and its commitment to educational innovation.

Contact:

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