



MEDIA RELEASE

AMC Accreditation Update: December 2010

22 December 2010

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

In November 2010 the AMC Directors

- Found that the medical program of the **James Cook University, School of Medicine and Dentistry, Faculty of Medicine, Health and Molecular Sciences** meet the AMC Accreditation Standards. The program will be granted accreditation until 31 December 2016.
- Agreed that the major changes proposed to the **Medical Program, Melbourne Medical School, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, the University of Melbourne** be approved. This includes the change to a four-year master degree (MD) program. The MD program will be granted accreditation until 31 December 2016.

The accreditation of the six-year MBBS undergraduate entry and four and one half year graduate entry medical program of the University of Melbourne will be extended to 31 December 2013.

- Agreed that major changes proposed to the **MBBS Program of the School of Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences the University of Queensland** be granted accreditation until 31 December 2016. These changes include: admitting a cohort of fee-paying students from the United States of America (US citizens and US permanent residents) who would complete the first two years of the program at the University's Brisbane campuses and undertake the majority of their clinical training in Years 3 and 4 through the School's Ochsner Clinical School, based in the Ochsner Health System in New Orleans; the expansion of

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student numbers to incorporate this cohort and the implementation of Years 1 and 2 of the MBBS program at the University's Ipswich campus.

The full accreditation decision for each medical program, including the requirements for progress reports and any conditions imposed on the accreditation are provided in the [Executive Summaries of the Accreditation Reports](#).

The AMC also accredits specialist medical education and training programs and continuing professional development programs.

The AMC has granted ongoing accreditation of the education and training programs and continuing professional development programs of the **Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia** until 31 December 2012. This accreditation decision covers the recognised specialties of General Pathology; Anatomical Pathology (including Cytopathology); Chemical Pathology; Forensic Pathology; Haematology; Immunology; and Microbiology. The AMC has determined that the College and the programs leading to fellowship of the College in these disciplines substantially meet the accreditation standards. Applications for recognition of two other pathology disciplines, clinical pathology and genetic pathology, are still under consideration and the AMC anticipates that review of these disciplines will be finished by February 2011.

The full accreditation decision including the requirements for progress reports and any conditions imposed on the accreditation are provided in the Executive Summary of the Accreditation Report.

The AMC presented the accreditation decisions and reports noted above to the Medical Board of Australia. These accreditation decisions were referred 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 the [Board's website](#) following each meeting.