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AMC BOOK SUPPORTS OVERSEAS TRAINED DOCTORS

A new book by the Australian Medical Council would support the efforts of overseas trained doctors to qualify in Australia, Chairman of the AMC Board of Examiners, Prof. Vernon Marshall said today.

The book is the first of its kind in the world and includes hundreds of past AMC examination questions and extensive commentaries by eminent medical experts.

“Australians have the right to expect high quality and consistent standards of medical care, no matter which doctor they are treated by or where that doctor was trained,” Prof. Marshall said.

“As such, the AMC is obliged under its charter to assess foreign medical graduates to ensure they can provide the same quality of care a patient would receive from an Australian medical graduate,” he said.

The new book, “Annotated Multiple Choice Questions”, was published by Blackwell Science Asia and launched in Canberra today by the Federal Minister for Health, Dr Michael Wooldridge.

Prof. Marshall said the new book was developed to meet the clear needs of overseas trained doctors hoping to qualify in Australia.

“It is clear from the difficulty many overseas trained doctors have in passing the AMC examination that they need further information about the AMC’s expectations of candidates,” Prof. Marshall said.

The book contains comprehensive answers to hundreds of questions that have appeared in previous exam papers. The standard of the exam is set at the same level expected of Australian medical graduates.

“As well, it provides commentaries by some of Australia’s most eminent clinicians that illustrate best-practice principles for a wide range of medical conditions found in our community,” he said.

“The book is valuable in both practical and educational terms. It will help demystify the AMC exam process to candidates and identify the correct responses to the questions. As importantly, it will also explain why certain practises constitute high quality medical care,” Prof. Marshall said.

The AMC has invested considerable time and effort in developing the book and tailoring it to the needs of exam candidates.

“We have analysed the performance of candidates in past AMC exams in great detail to make sure this book is targeted at current candidate needs,” he said.

“As a result, it is extremely comprehensive in the areas of medicine in which candidates have commonly performed poorly in past years,” Prof. Marshall said.

Available from the publishers, Blackwell Science Asia, and retailed at \$79.95, the book is deliberately accessible to all candidates.

“It is also significantly more valuable and accurate than any of the purported versions of past AMC exams that many candidates have paid hundreds of dollars for on the black market,” he said.

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