DENTAL BOARD OF NEW SOUTH WALES

7. The Mutual Recognition Act (MRA) Commonwealth, States and Territories:

The Board's experience with the MRA has been good. It has been convenient for new graduates in particular who make up 80% of the mobile dentist population. The benefit of obtaining a Certificate of Good Standing from their current registering authority is a quick and efficient way to confirm there is no outstanding disciplinary matter in the other State or Territory.

There is continual notification between registration authorities in respect of registrants who have faced the more serious disciplinary tribunal or hearings, where registration may have been removed or suspended.

Comment

The Board would raise one issue and that relates to specialist description. Attached for your information is the book written by the President of the Board, Dr John Dale, AO "Decisions of the Board II" which includes the decision of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal, General Administrative Division which relates to an application for specialist description as an Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon.

Since that decision the Board is aware of other candidates applying to other states for Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and then requesting this State to give them the same description.

2. The Trans Tasman Mutual Recognition Act (TTMRA)

Both prior to the commencement of TTMR graduates in Dentistry from the University of Otago have been able to be registered in New South Wales under Section 15(1)(b) of the Dentists Act.

Where a candidate is a graduate from a third country university other than the United Kingdom or Ireland, there are differences in the examination of these candidates. Currently, candidates from all other countries other than UK or Ireland are required to submit themselves to the examinations conducted by the Australian Dental Council. However, the Dental Council of New Zealand who assess on a case by case system does not appear to require candidates from a number of countries to submit to any examination on their dental skills.