Australasian Board Of Cardiovascular Perfusion

BOARD MEMBERS:

Australasian Society of Cardiovascular Perfusionists: Mr. Peter Angelopoulos, Ms. Jude Clark, Ms. Jane Ottens, Mr. Arthur Preovolos

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons: Mr. Iain Ross, Professor Julian Smith

Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists: Dr. Paul Forrest, Dr. Andrew Stewart

Wednesday, 20 August 2003

Review of Mutual Recognition
Productivity Commision,
P.O. Box 80,
BELCONNEN, A.C.T. 2616
mra@pc.gov.au

Dear Sir or Madam,

Review of Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition

On behalf of the Australasian Board Of Cardiovascular Perfusionists I'd like to thank you for giving us the opportunity to comment on the operation of the Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Agreement.

Perfusionists are health care professionals who operate the Heart and Lung machine during cardiac surgery.The Australasian Board of Cardiovascular Perfusionists (ABCP) oversees the education and training of all Perfusionists in Australia and New Zealand. Further it oversees the continuing education of perfusionists through a reaccreditation process, which all perfusionists undertake triennially. The board is made up of representatives of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, The Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists and the Australasian Society of Cardiovascular Perfusionists (ASCVP).

Perfusionists are not registered by statute in Australia and therefore the TTMR arrangement has no effect on the profession. However Perfusionists, for reasons of public safety, are being considered for registration in New Zealand. The registration, and therefore regulation, of all perfusionists in Australia in New Zealand is a stated goal of the ABCP.
Due to the small number of Perfusionists involved it would appear that a federal approach to registration should be undertaken this would also work to harmonise standards across the country.

The ABCP by setting standards for the education and practice of perfusion in Australian and New Zealand will protect the public.

The ABCP would see that these standards spread across the Tasman and formally synchronise the standards and conduct of Perfusion in both Australia in New Zealand.

It is the belief of the ABCP and the ASCVP that all Perfusionists should be registered to protect the public safety.

Yours sincerely

Arthur Preovolos
Secretary ABCP

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