

17 June 2024

Dr Matthew McConnell  
Chair, AMA Federal Council

**By email:** [REDACTED]

**Subject: AMA Qld IMG Working Group Recommendations for AMA IMG Working Group**

Dear Dr McConnell

The AMA Queensland Council established the International Medical Graduate (IMG) Working Group in March 2022 to provide considered and expert advice and recommendations to Council on matters relating to IMGs.

A key objective of the IMG Working Group was to develop policy recommendations for supporting IMGs in training, primarily based on the results of an IMG survey conducted by AMA Queensland in September-October 2022.

The Working Group's subsequent recommendations focussed on three key themes that IMGs identified as causing significant difficulties upon or after arrival in Australia – orientation (personal and professional), workplace and training.

Recommendations relating to orientation and workplace issues were provided to Queensland Health as the main employer of IMGs in Queensland. They continue to be the subject of ongoing advocacy by the AMA Queensland President and CEO during meetings with the Department.

The recommendations relating to the third theme of training, however, predominantly relate to issues at a national level given the nature of medical training in Australia. As such, the AMA Queensland Council resolved at its May 2024 meeting to submit the IMG Working Group's recommendations to AMA Federal for consideration and further progression, including via its pending AMA IMG Working Group.

**Private practice IMGs**

In addition to the IMG Working Group's recommendations, the AMA Queensland Council also resolved to recommend the AMA IMG Working Group consider an additional focus area of private practice IMGs, particularly those working in general practice. There is increasing concern

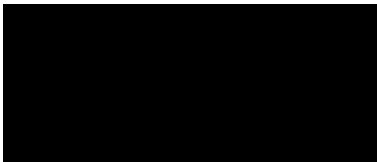
and evidence that these IMGs are amongst the most isolated and vulnerable practitioners, with at least 50% of our regionally- and rurally located GPs identified as IMGs.

In accordance with the AMA Queensland Council's resolutions, we respectfully submit the enclosed IMG Working Group's recommendations for your consideration for progression by the pending AMA IMG Working Group. We also urge you and the AMA IMG Working Group to consider advocacy to support vulnerable private practice IMGs, particularly GPs in regional, rural and remote Australia.

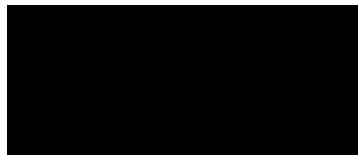
Our IMG Working Group Chair and Vice President, Dr Emilia Dauway, is AMA Queensland's representative on the AMA IMG Working Group. Dr Dauway has a wealth of knowledge about IMGs generally and the specifics of the AMA Qld IMG Working Group recommendations. She is available to assist with related questions you or the AMA IMG Working Group may have.

We look forward to seeing the results of your work and advocacy in this important area.

Yours sincerely



Dr Nick Yim  
**President**  
**AMA Queensland**



Dr Brett Dale  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**AMA Queensland**