

GPRA and GPSA agree to work together towards sensible systemic change

GP Supervisors Australia and GP Registrars Australia met recently to discuss an appropriate path forward to support Training Practices and their registrars with certainty around baseline employment conditions in 2019 and beyond.

The executive of both organisations agreed that, in the spirit of goodwill and co-operation and with the best interests of the training program at heart, there is a need for an addendum to the current National Terms and Conditions for the Employment of Registrars (NTCER). This addendum is to ensure training practices are not confused by base salaries which have increased in line with MBS Item 23 on 1 July 2018.

The addendum has been made, in consultation with the AMA, and is now available consistently on the websites of both organisations. No other changes have been made to this document or conditions.

Per the NTCER, the agreement in its current form exists until formally replaced. At this time, there is no agreement to replace the existing document.

GP Registrars Australia and GP Supervisors Australia recognise the complexities of amending the NTCER for both parties and remain committed to ongoing dialogue. Further, it is recognised that it is the limited nature of Commonwealth funding via Medicare and industry structural constraints that remain an impediment to making significant amendments to the agreement at this time.

GP Supervisors Australia and GP Registrars Australia will instead invest time and effort to consult stakeholders and develop a strategy and a set of evidence-based recommendations to put to the Government's General Practice Training Advisory Committee for further consideration.

Practices and Registrars alike can be assured that the current conditions remain in force. GP Registrars Australia and GP Supervisors Australia will continue to work with industry and government stakeholders to articulate the case for change coherently and collaboratively in a way that makes sense to all parties and ultimately is sustainable for the Commonwealth, practices, registrars and the Australian community.

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For further information:

Andrew Gosbell

CEO – GPRA

E enquiries@gpra.org.au

P (03) 9629 8878

Glen Wallace

CEO - GPSA

E glen.wallace@gpsupervisorsaustralia.org.au

M 0499 012 627