



# IMG INTERVIEW ASSESSMENT ADVICE TO APPLICANTS

## Specialist Recognition Assessment Pathway

### Interview Purpose

The purpose of this interview is:

- To allow further assessment of your clinical competence referenced against the standard of an Australian-trained dermatologist in general dermatology practice.
- To determine if further specific training is required for you to reach that standard.
- For the committee to clarify any matter in your documents.
- For you to provide any additional information not covered in your documents relevant to your clinical practice.
- For the committee to ask you clinical scenario questions to assess your current practice and clinical competence.
- For you to ask the committee questions regarding the assessment process.

### Interview Panel Members

The interview panel consists of 6 members of the college and 1 representative of the public interest. One member is also a Fellow who has undergone the IMG assessment process.

### Interview Governance and Procedures

The governance of the committee is documented elsewhere and can be accessed at [www.dermcoll.edu.au](http://www.dermcoll.edu.au)

The total time allocated for the interview is up to **1.5 hours**. The Chairperson will also be the timekeeper. Please note that the interview will be sound recorded.

The interview has four sections:

#### **Part 1: Clarification of any information received to date**

You may make a statement regarding any of the information you have provided in your application, provide any further documents you want the committee to have, and raise any other matter that you feel might influence the committee. If applicable, the Chairperson will advise you of any adverse information that the committee has received, and invite you to respond to that.

## **Part 2: Clinical scenarios presentation and discussion**

In this section you will be asked approximately **10 medical and procedural** based questions, and up to **2 cultural competency/professionalism** based questions.

For the medical and procedural questions, you will be presented with detailed clinical scenarios to which you should respond by clearly stating what you personally would do for the described patient and why you would do it. Only clinicians will present clinical scenarios, but the non-clinicians on the panel make an assessment of your answers from their viewpoint.

With each scenario, consider it as if you are actually consulting with that patient at that time. This is not a test of your theoretical knowledge, and not an examination with a specific correct answer. You should not provide an answer that goes beyond your specific current practice. You may be asked follow up questions if the interviewer wishes to acquire detail about your management, or if the interviewer wishes to extend the clinical scenario based on your proposed management.

Example 1) You are asked how you would manage a patient with a 10mm diameter basal cell carcinoma on the nose. If you would normally refer this patient to a colleague, then that is what you should answer. You might then be asked what you think your colleague would do for the patient, but not the detail of how they might do it.

Example 2) Another scenario might involve a patient with severe psoriasis, and you may know that biologics therapy is available but never had the chance to use them. After you have advised the interviewer of how you would normally manage the patient, you might state that you are aware of such therapies, and what you have learned about them, then advise you have no experience of their use.

Example 3) You are asked how to manage a 3 year old child with atopic dermatitis whose parents seek advice regarding the need for dust mite avoidance measures. You would respond to the interviewer by describing how you would actually counsel such a family, not with information regarding your knowledge of the literature on the topic.

Ask for the scenario to be repeated to you if that is necessary.

## **Part 3: Consideration of your need for further training in Australia**

You should be ready to advise the committee of any areas of clinical practice for which you would seek specific upskilling. (Please note that this does not prevent you being recommended as substantially comparable, but is to assist in the integration of applicants into the Australian clinical milieu).

## **Part 4: Applicant-led questions. )**

You are invited to ask questions of the committee regarding any matter related to your assessment and possible training and further assessment requirements.

## Committee Recommendation

The committee will discuss your application and level of comparability immediately after the interview. You will be notified in writing of the committee's decision from the ACD within 10 working days. A report outlining the committee's recommendation(s) will also be forwarded to the Australia Medical Council for the purposes of the Medical Board of Australia.

The findings will be one of three possible outcomes:

1. **Substantially Comparable:** 3 months supervised practice prior to being recommended for specialist recognition.
2. **Partially Comparable:** supervised training of a minimum of 6 months to a maximum of two years and assessment are required of you to achieve substantial comparability to an Australian-trained dermatologist. Applicants who are required to complete two years of training will be required to complete the Fellowship examinations. The specific requirements will be outlined in the letter sent to you from the ACD.  
Please note that you might be requested to attend a 2<sup>nd</sup> interview for assessment with the IMG committee after the completion of your training.
3. **Not Comparable:** The ACD recommends that you will not be able to reach substantial comparability within the maximum two years of supervised clinical training and/or assessment.

## Videoconference Requirements

The Committee understands that it is not always possible to attend an interview in person due to personal and professional commitments, travel time to and from Australia and the processes involved to obtain a suitable visa to enter Australia.

For these reasons the Committee offers applicants the opportunity to conduct their interview via videoconference such as ZOOM. To maintain the integrity of the interview assessment, the following requirements must be adhered to at all times until the completion of the interview:

- The applicant **must** use a headset to ensure that they hear the panel members adequately. The use of a headset with a microphone is preferred as this will help to reduce the effects of electronic feedback and environmental noise for the interview panel.
- The applicant must conduct the interview in a secure and confidential environment. For example, in an office meeting room or a home study room

- The applicant must be visible from at least the waist upwards to the top of the head, and the hands and arms should be visible as much as possible
- Note taking during the interview is permissible, however, the hands and arms should be visible as much as possible
- A neutral background should always be visible
- Regular eye contact with the camera should be maintained unless note taking during the questions
- No other persons should be present during the interview
- No medical or academic resources may be used throughout the interview

**IF THESE REQUIREMENTS ARE NOT ADHERED TO THE COMMITTEE MAY CHOOSE TO TERMINATE THE INTERVIEW AT ANY TIME.**