



# PMCT Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1  
Newsletter Date

## Welcome from Chair of PMCT

Welcome to the first edition of the PMCT newsletter.

The Postgraduate Medical Education Council of Tasmania (formerly the Postgraduate Medical Institute of Tasmania, or PMIT) is the organisation responsible for coordinating the provision of high quality prevocational medical education in Tasmania's public hospitals. Prevocational doctors are those who are yet to enter specialist

training and includes doctors in their first few years of practice and International Medical Graduates.

In this edition you will find information about how PMCT works to ensure appropriate training and support for prevocational doctors, together with some local initiatives such as the forthcoming JMO forum.

Finally, we will provide up to date information about national issues affecting junior

doctors, such as the Australian Curriculum Framework and this year's National Prevocational Forum.

We here at PMCT would be delighted to hear from junior doctors and educational supervisors in Tasmania, regarding your views on the issues facing prevocational training. We can be contacted at our office on 03 6222 8106 or via email:

[moreeta.pennicott@dhhs.tas.gov.au](mailto:moreeta.pennicott@dhhs.tas.gov.au)

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Associate Professor  
Terry Brown  
Chair of PMCT

## New-look PMCT

Over the past year, with the PMCT restructure, staff have been extremely busy updating a new and improved website as well as the necessary changes to branding and logo changes.

Our new website aims to provide information about PMCT and its role and current projects and courses. A major aim of

our site is to inform medical educators, students, clinicians and others about developments in prevocational medical education and training matters within both our state and nationally. The site has links to Postgraduate Medical Councils or equivalent as well as other peak bodies and is an invaluable resource

for medical graduates and prevocational doctors.

The process of improving this site will continue over the next couple of months. If you have any suggestion please contact Sandy on [sandy.mcmanus@dhhs.tas.gov.au](mailto:sandy.mcmanus@dhhs.tas.gov.au) or call our office on 6222 8098.

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## Tasmanian Junior Medical Officer Forum

The first meeting of the Tasmanian Junior Medical Officer (JMO) Forum (Southern Arm) will be held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July with the Northern Arm meeting in August. The aim of this Forum is to bring junior doctors together to examine current issues affecting their education and training needs. Although the focus of the forum is on prevocational

education, members include Interns, RMOs, Registrars and Medical Students.

The forum is supported by PMCT and provides JMOs with direct communication with the PMCT committees and subcommittees. Members of the JMO Forum also have the opportunity to represent Tasmania at the annual National JMO Forum.

For further information about the JMO Forum please contact Lynn Hemmings at

[lynn.hemmings@dhhs.tas.gov.au](mailto:lynn.hemmings@dhhs.tas.gov.au) or go to the JMO section of the PMCT website

[www.pmct.utas.edu.au](http://www.pmct.utas.edu.au)



Riding the Wave... Hobart 2008

“to bring junior doctors together to examine current issues affecting their education and training needs.”



**coasting to gold**  
14<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL PREVOCATIONAL MEDICAL EDUCATION FORUM

15 – 18 November 2009  
Sheraton Mirage Resort and Spa  
Gold Coast, Queensland

UPDATES Registration opens 15 June | Call for Papers now open | Visit the PMCQ web site [www.pmcq.com.au](http://www.pmcq.com.au) for current details

For details contact Phil Holmes at Convention Wise on [mail@conventionwise.com.au](mailto:mail@conventionwise.com.au) | Ph 03 6234 1424 | Fax 03 6281 9601

## 14<sup>th</sup> National Prevocational Forum 2009

This year's Prevocational Forum will be held at the Sheraton Mirage Resort the Gold Coast 15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> November.

This is an important event in the calendar of anyone interested in Prevocational Medical Education and every year this forum stimulates, educates and helps promote the issues relating to prevocational education in Australia.

The conference is of interest to JMOs, Supervi-

sors of JMOs, Medical Educators, Educationalists and Academics, Vocational Doctors and Medical Students.

The themes of the 2009 Forum are:

- Innovation in medical education
- Supervision
- Doctor's Health and Wellbeing
- Enhancing capacity
- Nationalising Registration and Accreditation

The Call for Abstracts is

now open; the closing date for the submission of an abstract is **15th July 2009**.

The official conference website is now available through the Postgraduate Medical Education Council of Queensland (PMCQ) website at:

[www.pmcq.com.au](http://www.pmcq.com.au). Please follow the *Coasting to Gold* Conference Website link for access to Registration, Call for Papers and other conference information.



## PMCT IMG Bridging Courses

These courses continue to be popular with available places filling soon after the enrolment information is released on the PMCT website.

The next course is scheduled for Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2009 in Hobart, with a further course to be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2009 in Launceston. Enrolment information regarding the August course has been circulated via email to Tasmanian IMGs, and will be posted to the PMCT Website after 22 June 2009.

Steps are being taken to organise an expression of interest page to be in-

cluded on the Bridging Course page of the PMCT Website, where interested IMGs can send an 'expression of interest' via email to the office. The intention is to email the enrolment form and information when it is released, to all those IMGs who have sent in an 'expression of interest'. This information is normally emailed to previous course attendees and Tasmanian Public Hospital IMGs about a week prior to it being posted to the website. It is hoped that this will reduce the number of time consuming phone calls received from interested IMGs wanting

course information. The number of 'expressions of interest' received may also be a useful indicator regarding demand for the courses. The number of courses provided each year may be demand dependant in the future.

At the August course we will be trialling the introduction of supplying each candidate with a DVD containing video footage of themselves from 1 OSCE station from the practice exam component of the day. Candidate feedback from the June 09 course regarding the DVDs was very positive.



“We will be trialling the introduction of supplying each candidate with a DVD containing video footage of themselves”

## Australian Curriculum Framework for Junior Doctors

The Australian Curriculum Framework for Junior Doctors (ACF) is an educational template outlining the outcomes required of prevocational medical education programs in order for Junior Doctors to provide safe, quality health care. Since the launch of the ACF in November 2006 PMCT Medical Education Advisors and Directors of Clinical Training have used the framework when designing and implementing 'local' educational programs.

More recently, a National Term Description Template has been developed to support the implementation of the ACF. PMCT is making progress towards ensuring that all

PGY1/2 rotations are supported by a term description that gives consideration of the components of the ACF which will be covered during the term.

National PGY1/2 Assessment tools, underpinned by the ACF, have also been developed. These tools include a self assessment review form for use by the JMO prior to the mid and end of term appraisal meetings, and an end of term assessment review form to provide information about the performance of Junior Doctors by their Supervisor. PMCT is currently involved in a pilot of the Assessment Tools at Royal Hobart Hospital (one of 12 sites chosen nationally for piloting?).

In February, CPMEC commenced the first major revision of the curriculum framework since its development. The revised version of the ACF will be formally launched at the 14<sup>th</sup> Prevocational Medical Education Forum in November 2009.

For further information about the ACF please contact Lynn Hemmings at

[lynn.hemmings@dhhs.tas.gov.au](mailto:lynn.hemmings@dhhs.tas.gov.au) or visit the ACF website

[www.cpmecc.org.au](http://www.cpmecc.org.au)

## Patient Safety Education Modules

The Postgraduate Medical Education Council of Tasmania in collaboration with the Postgraduate Medical Council of Victoria has developed two Patient Safety Education Modules. This work was undertaken as a national project for the Medical Training Review Panel. The modules address components of the Safe Patient Care category of the Australian Curriculum Framework for Junior Doctors and will be officially launched at the National Forum in Brisbane in November 2009.

## PMCT Education Sub Committee

The newly formed PMCT Education Sub Committee meets four times a year.

The aims of the Education Sub Committee include promoting the development of appropriate educational activities and programs for JMOs and exploring opportunities for research along the continuum of medical education.

Topics discussed this year have included how to best develop the teaching role of JMOs, mapping the undergraduate curriculum to the intern teaching program using the Australian Junior Doctor Curriculum Framework and the use of electronic portfolios.

The members comprise:

Dr Lynn Hemmings – Chair (Deputy Chair PMCT)  
 Dr Corinne Ginnifer – Director of Clinical Training, (NWRH)  
 Ms Robin Ikin - Medical Education Advisor (LGH)  
 Dr Blair Adamczewski – Junior Medical Officer (RHH)  
 Dr Craig Zimitat – Director of Medical Education (UTAS)  
 Dr Nick Cooling – Medical Educator (GPTT)

## PMCT IMG Sub Committee - Work

The IMG subcommittee has now met on two occasions.

It's Terms of Reference are:

- To identify and address issues affecting prevocational IMGs in the workplace, including issues related to registration, orientation, pre employment interviews, education, training, assessment and career development.
- To liaise and work with other agencies and services who also manage IMGs.
- To encourage and support the development of appropriate training and monitoring data base systems for prevocational IMGs.
- To maintain an awareness of National initiatives which will impact on IMG recruitment, employment and training.

The subcommittee discussed the strategic direction of the group over the next 12 months, and agreed on the following priorities:

- The development of a state-wide accreditable process to undertake Pre-employment Structured Clinical.
- Interviews for IMG applicants to the Public Hospital system.
- The exploration of a process to allow IMG applicants to undertake supervised clinical attachments prior to an offer of employment.
- Ongoing monitoring and development of Orientation programmes for newly employed IMGs.
- Ongoing monitoring of the process of Workplace Based Assessments as part of the COAG agenda, and AMC requirements.

“Promoting  
the  
development  
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## PMCT IMG Sub Committee - Members

Dr Beth Mulligan - Chair Director of Clinical Training (LGH)  
 Ms Glen Paley - Medical Education Officer (RHH)  
 Dr AB Ramroop - Junior Medical Officer (RHH)  
 Dr Kim Rooney - Medical Council of Tas. (LGH)  
 Dr Nick Cooling - Medical Educator GPTT  
 Ms Sandy McManus - IMG Project Officer



## PMCT Accreditation Sub Committee

The Sub-Committee is responsible for ensuring that each hospital provides appropriate support and training for the JMOs employed there, in accordance with standards agreed between the Council and the Medical Council of Tasmania. The Council undertakes regular structured assessment visits to each site to ensure that these standards are being met. The Sub Committee have met two times this year to discuss the committees terms of reference, roles and functions as well as review the recent accreditation of the 3 public hospitals in Tasmania.

The members comprise:

Associate Professor Terry Brown – Chair (Chair of PMCT)  
 Dr Kim Rooney – Medical Council of Tasmania (LGH)  
 Dr Paul Scott – Junior Medical Officer (RHH)  
 Dr Allan Beswick – Director of Clinical Training (RHH)  
 Ms Rose Moore – Medical Education Advisor (NWRH)  
 Ms Moreeta Pennicott – Executive Officer PMCT

## Prevocational Medical Accreditation Framework

In 2008 all state Postgraduate Medical Councils agreed to work towards a national Prevocational Medical Accreditation Framework (PMAF). The PMAF project aims to increase consistency across the jurisdictions of accreditation practices, align prevocational accreditation practices with other appropriate local and international benchmarks, reduce duplication of work required in each PMC (or its equivalent), and provide increased transparency of accreditation practices.

The project has been recognised by the Medical Training and Review Panel (MTRP) as a national priority in prevocational medical education.

It also fits in with COAG initiatives towards achieving national registration and accreditation in the health professions.

CPMEC established a National Technical Group (NTG) to develop the Prevocational Medical Accreditation Framework which included representation from the Accreditation Committee of each Postgraduate Medical Council since the commencement of the process. The NTG also had junior doctors and a medical education officer with accreditation experience. The NTG met on a number of occasions to consider the documentation for the PMAF. In the development of the PMAF, CPMEC has utilised the

recent work done by the Postgraduate Medical Council of Queensland in developing their accreditation systems. The PMAF document encompasses recommended principles and policies that should underpin the accreditation of prevocational medical training in Australia.

The draft PMAF will now be subject to extensive consultations with key stakeholders, as was the case with the development of the Australian Curriculum Framework for Junior Doctors. The document was formally launched at the 13th Prevocational Forum in Hobart. The document is accessible from the CPMEC website.

“Aims to increase consistency across the jurisdictions of accreditation practices.”

## JMO AWARD 2009

The Postgraduate Medical Education Council of Tasmania is pleased to announce the Tasmanian JMO Award for 2009. The award recognises the contribution of a prevocational doctor working in Tasmania (either a current intern or PGY2 doctor, unless there are outstanding reasons for someone outside this group who is still a prevocational trainee) who has:

(a) made a significant contribution to prevocational teaching and learning,

(b) contributed to the education activities of his or her hospital, the PMCT or another educational body and/or

(c) made a significant contribution to prevocational training through project work or publication.

The winner of the Tasmanian JMO Award will receive a certificate and funding for accommodation, travel and registration fees to attend the annual Prevocational Medical Education Forum to be

held in Queensland 15–18th November 2009. The winners of the JMO Award in each state will be nominated for the Australian JMO Award. The winner of the Australian JMO Award will be chosen by the Executive of the Confederation of Postgraduate Medical Education Councils (CPMEC) and will receive a medal at the National Forum Conference Dinner. Further information contact: Moreeta Pennicott 03 6222 8106

“Your views  
and  
preferences on  
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## Invitation to Participate in MABEL Survey

The Melbourne Institute is pleased to invite Australian doctors to participate in an important nationwide longitudinal survey: *MABEL: Medicine in Australia: Balancing Employment and Life*. Over 10,500 doctors responded to Wave 1 of the survey in 2008, and Wave 2 of the survey is now ‘live’. The latest MABEL newsletter can be viewed at: [www.mabel.org.au/newsletter/](http://www.mabel.org.au/newsletter/) and it contains a section on frequently asked questions, plus an overview of initial results from Wave 1.

In an era of continuing workforce shortages, MABEL is concerned with obtaining your views and preferences on the key factors influencing your work-life balance. The results will provide valuable information relevant to the development of effective policies to support the medical workforce.

The MABEL survey, funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council, is conducted by researchers from the Melbourne Insti-

tute at the University of Melbourne, and Monash University.

If you have received a MABEL survey already, we encourage you to fill it in. If you would like to participate and are a doctor undertaking clinical work, please send an email with your name and medical registration number to: [enquiries@mabel.org.au](mailto:enquiries@mabel.org.au) or call (03) 8344 2600.

