



**RANZCO**

The Royal Australian  
and New Zealand  
College of Ophthalmologists

# Specialist International Medical Graduate Period of Oversight Guidelines

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**Approved by:** CEO  
**Next review:** 25 June 2020

**Approval date:** 25 June 2014

## 1. Purpose and scope

To outline the requirements for a Specialist International Medical Graduate (SIMG) who is required to undergo a period of oversight as a component of their Specialist Pathway assessment.

## 2. Period of Oversight

The purpose of a Period of Oversight is to provide final assurance to the SIMG committee that the SIMG's ophthalmic skills and/or knowledge is comparable to an ophthalmologist trained and qualified in Australia and to ensure the SIMG is provided an opportunity to be orientated to the Australian health care setting.

A period of oversight is a component of the RANZCO SIMG assessment process. After being declared Substantially Comparable an SIMG may be asked to undertake a Period of Oversight (of up to 12 months) before being invited to apply for College Fellowship. It is at the discretion of the SIMG Committee to determine if an SIMG is required to undertake a Period of Oversight and for what length of time before being eligible to apply for Fellowship.

If a Period of Oversight is required, it must be undertaken in an Australian hospital.

### 2.1 Program and timeframe

The SIMG is responsible for developing his or her own program (subject to the approval of the SIMG Committee) for the Period of Oversight.

The Period of Oversight begins from the date when the SIMG commences their approved program.

### 2.2 Overseer

An Overseer will be required for each SIMG in a Period of Oversight. The Overseer is to be approved by the SIMG Committee. The overseer must be a Fellow of the College, and cannot be an employer or have any other financial relationship to the SIMG.

The role of the Overseer is to provide the SIMG Committee with feedback to enable them to efficiently and effectively conduct their assessment of an SIMG. An overseer's role is not to teach the SIMG, but to monitor his/her clinical practice in terms of knowledge, expertise, surgical skills and communication with his/her patients and colleagues. The Overseer does not need to be the SIMG's direct supervisor but, they should be in regular contact with the supervisor to assist them in monitoring the SIMG's practice.

## 2.3 Reporting

The Overseer is required to provide a report at the mid-point and end-point of the Period of Oversight, which is discussed with the SIMG and then forwarded to the Committee.

The reports should be presented as a narrative summary of the SIMGs responsibilities, including their current clinical and surgical practice, as well their continued professional development (CPD) activities.

In addition to the narrative summary the Overseer may also be required to submit the following reports at the mid-point and end point of the Period of Oversight:

- S-IMG Assessment of Key Roles
- S-IMG Theatre Assessment
- S-IMG Assessment of Clinical and Surgical Experience

More frequent reports will be considered by the Committee if the Overseer considers this necessary.

These reports and submissions will be considered by the SIMG Committee and if after consideration of these reports they confirm the determination of substantial comparability the SIMG will be invited to apply for College Fellowship. If the determination of substantial comparability is not confirmed, then the SIMG may be required to undergo further assessment tasks before a final determination is made. The SIMG may make further submissions to the Committee at the time of these reports.

## 3. Employment and medical registration

It is the responsibility of the SIMG to source an employment opportunity that will allow them to undertake their approved program for the Period of Oversight.

It is the responsibility of the SIMG to obtain the correct category of medical registration. All enquiries regarding medical registration in Australia should be directed to the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA).

## 4. Record of amendments to this document

Page	Details of amendment	Date approved
Entire document	Created	25/6/14 (CEO)
2.2 & 2.3	Amended	1/3/18 (Deputy-CEO)