



SINGAPORE MEDICAL COUNCIL

12 December 2018

Q1	Who are affected by the additional requirement for full registration?
A1	<p>a) New conditionally registered non-specialist doctors who obtain conditional registration (C-reg) by virtue of a basic medical qualification from a university/medical school listed in the Second Schedule of the Medical Registration Act (MRA) and who have not done their Postgraduate Year 1 (PGY1) in Singapore will be required to fulfil the <u>additional</u> full registration (F-reg) requirement.</p> <p>b) Most existing conditionally registered (non-specialist) doctors who were issued the older letters of approval of C-reg will not be affected unless all their postings have been non-patient contact in nature, or their clinical performance was/is not determined to be satisfactory. For such doctors, they will be issued a revised C-reg letter, specifying the additional requirement to fulfil before they can apply for F-reg.</p>
Q2	If I am a Specialist or Family Physician registered with SMC, do I still need to undergo the 12 months of broad-based practice before I can be considered for full registration?
A2	Registered Specialists and Family Physicians are not affected by the additional requirement (at least 12 months of broad-based practice) for F-reg.
Q3	What type of practice does SMC consider as broad-based and the duration to fulfil the requirement?
A3	<p>New conditionally registered non-specialist doctors will be required to:</p> <p>a) Complete at least 12 months of broad-based practice in General Medicine or Family Medicine;</p> <p>or</p> <p>b) Complete 6 months of General Medicine (or Family Medicine) <u>and</u> another 6 months in Internal Medicine related specialties¹</p> <p>or</p>

¹ Cardiology, gastroenterology, neurology, dermatology, endocrinology, infectious diseases, rheumatology, haematology, medical oncology, geriatric medicine, renal medicine, respiratory medicine, rehabilitation medicine.



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	<p>c) Complete 6 months of General Medicine (or Family Medicine) <u>and</u> another 6 months posting in any of the following specialties: Emergency Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, General Surgery, Orthopaedic Surgery or Paediatric Medicine.</p> <p>These postings are prospective following their registration in Singapore. Their performance must also be considered satisfactory by SMC for the required postings that they have selected.</p>
Q4	I have at least 6 months of General Surgery postings in Singapore. Must I do another 12 months of broad-based practice?
A4	Conditionally registered (non-specialist) doctors who have done at least 6 months of surgical posting(s) or internal medicine related specialties or in emergency medicine, obstetrics & gynaecology, general surgery, orthopaedic surgery or paediatric medicine (with satisfactory performance) in Singapore are required to complete at least 6 more months of general medicine or family medicine (with satisfactory performance) in Singapore to meet the requirement.
Q5	Why is there a need to impose additional requirement on conditionally registered (non-specialist) doctors?
A5	The additional requirement is to ensure that doctors are clinically competent to practise independently and for patient safety as the broad-based clinical experience under supervision will expose them to manage a broad range of patients. These postings in which the doctors will be supervised and assessed for clinical performance will help indicate to SMC whether they can practise independently and safely in a primary care setting.
Q6	I have received a letter advising me to undergo 12 months of broad-based practice. However, my employer is unable to rotate me to other clinical postings.
A6	You should discuss with your employer for arrangements for your rotation since this is one of the criteria required for consideration for full registration. You may also look for another SMC approved employer who is willing to rotate you through such postings.
Q7	Our department does not have enough supervisors to meet the “more than one primary supervisor” requirement to supervise the conditionally registered doctors.



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A7	For departments/ clinics which are unable to change the supervisors, they can submit their reasons for the Council's consideration.
Q8	Does it mean that a conditionally registered doctor should concurrently have two primary supervisors?
A8	<p>No, each conditionally registered doctor should only have one primary supervisor at any one point in time.</p> <p>For example, after a conditionally registered doctor has worked under one primary supervisor for at least six months, the institution can arrange for the conditionally registered doctor to work under a different primary supervisor for the next six months, <i>ie.</i> the next assessment period. More assessors will help avoid allegations that the assessments were not objective.</p>