



# SINGAPORE MEDICAL COUNCIL

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SMC CIRCULAR NO. 2/2018

[SMC 13.1.5]

12 DECEMBER 2018

## REFINEMENTS TO THE CRITERIA FOR FULL REGISTRATION AND SUPERVISORY FRAMEWORK

1. We refer to the Singapore Medical Council (SMC) Circular No. 2/2017 dated 18 December 2017 on the Changes to the SMC Registration and Supervisory Framework. As part of the SMC's continual efforts to maintain safe medical practice by the medical profession, it has further refined the general criteria for conditionally registered doctors to attain Full Registration (F-reg), and the Supervisory Framework.
2. The SMC has decided that non-specialist conditionally registered doctors who have not done their Postgraduate Year 1 under provisional registration in Singapore must undergo at least 12 months of broad-based practice with their clinical performance assessed to be satisfactory by the SMC before they apply for consideration for F-reg.
3. This requirement is applicable to 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. Doctors who obtain C-reg by other means remain subject to the criteria for F-reg which are in SMC Circular No. 2/2017.

### New Conditionally Registered Doctors

4. With effect from 12 December 2018, **new** non-specialist doctors granted C-reg by virtue of a basic medical qualification listed in the Second Schedule stated above can only apply for F-reg after:

- a) completion of at least 12 months of broad-based practice in General Medicine or Family Medicine<sup>1</sup>;

or

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<sup>1</sup> Family Medicine postings must be in Family Medicine departments or Family Medicine practices recognised under the Family Physicians Accreditation Board for training or specifically recognised by SMC (for example the Accredited Learning Institutions). The primary supervisor must be a registered Family Physician approved by SMC.

- b) completed 6 months of General Medicine (or Family Medicine) and another 6 months in Internal Medicine related specialties<sup>2</sup>;

or

- c) completed 6 months of General Medicine (or Family Medicine) and another 6 months posting in any of the following specialties : Emergency Medicine, Obstetrics & Gynaecology, General Surgery, Orthopaedic Surgery and Paediatric Medicine.

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.

### **Existing Conditionally Registered Doctors**

5. This additional requirement for a F-reg application will not affect existing non-specialist conditionally registered doctors unless all their postings have been non-patient contact in nature, or their clinical performance was/is not determined to be satisfactory. Such existing conditionally registered doctors will be issued a revised C-reg letter, specifying the additional requirements to fulfil before they can apply for F-reg.

6. SMC also recommends that employers and institutions of conditionally registered doctors arrange for their doctors to be assessed by more than one primary supervisor during the period of C-reg for an objective and holistic appraisal.<sup>3</sup>

7. This circular should be brought to the attention of all relevant staff and conditionally registered doctors in your institution or organisation.

8. The following SMC email addresses are to be used for any queries on:

- a) Registration matters – [SMC\\_registration\\_alert@smc.gov.sg](mailto:SMC_registration_alert@smc.gov.sg)
- b) Supervision matters – [SMC\\_surveillance\\_alert@smc.gov.sg](mailto:SMC_surveillance_alert@smc.gov.sg)

Thank you.

Yours faithfully



MRS JOANNA TAN  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
for PRESIDENT  
SINGAPORE MEDICAL COUNCIL

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<sup>2</sup> Cardiology, gastroenterology, neurology, dermatology, endocrinology, infectious diseases, rheumatology, haematology, medical oncology, geriatric medicine, renal medicine, respiratory medicine, rehabilitation medicine.

<sup>3</sup> 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, *ie.* the next assessment period.