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# APPENDIX 3 – INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL GRADUATE TRANSITION TO 2023

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*This information was distributed to all International Medical Graduates in December 2021 and has been included for reference.*

## **RE: Changes to RANZCR’s Clinical Radiology Training Program and Part 2 Examinations**

RANZCR commissioned a review of its training programs in 2015 to evaluate the quality and sustainability of its training, assessment, and examination activities, and to recommend strategies for improvement.

The Training Program has been revised based on the recommendations of the review, with changes to learning outcomes, learning experiences, work-based assessment and examinations. The training and assessment reforms are being implemented in February 2022 for all RANZCR trainees and IMGs. The draft [Clinical Radiology Curriculum Learning Outcomes](#) and [Clinical Radiology Training Handbook](#) are on the College website.

Changes to the Clinical Radiology Training program include changes to format and conditions of the Part 2 Examinations. Further details regarding the changes can be found at:

- [Training and Assessment Reform | RANZCR](#)
- [Webinar: Clinical Radiology 2022 Training Program - Examinations \(2021 ASM Presentation\)](#)

### **Main Changes**

1. From Series 1 2022, all Phase 2 Examinations will be aligned to the 2022 Training Program Learning Outcomes, regardless of examination format and rules.
2. In 2022 the Phase 2 examinations will be in the current (old) examination format. From Series 1 2023, the examinations will be in the new format.
3. IMGs who commence sitting prior to Series 1 2023 will sit with current (old) examination rules. IMGs who commence sitting from Series 1 2023 will sit with new examination rules.
4. New Phase 2 Examination format (from Series 1 2023)
  - a. **Written Components**
    - Pathology: Changed from 2 hours to 3 hours; 100 MCQs and 10 short answer questions
    - Clinical Radiology
      - Radiology MCQ: Unchanged 2 hours; 100 MCQs
      - Case reporting: Changed from 2 hours to 3 hours; short, medium and long cases
  - b. **Oral Components (OSCERS)**
    - 7 stations with 2 examiners at each station
    - Breast and O&G split into separate stations
    - Pathology incorporated into other OSCER stations, with capacity for applied anatomy and AIT questions to be asked also
    - Number of cases at each station determined by topic area and modality
    - Same case set shown to all candidates in a day
    - Standardised digital cases with standardised questions, marking rubrics and global rating
5. New Phase 2 Examination Rules (for IMGs who commence sitting from Series 1 2023)
  - a. **Sittings**
    - Pathology and Clinical Radiology Written Examination can be sat independent of each other.

- Clinical Radiology Written Examination has two components, CR MCQ and Case Reporting, which must be sat together.
- Pathology and Clinical Radiology Written Examinations must be passed before presenting for the OSCER.

**b. Number of Attempts**

Maximum 6 consecutive sittings (3 years) from when candidate commenced sitting the examinations, irrespective of how many examination components sat at one sitting. Additionally, maximum consecutive opportunities for individual components:

- Pathology - 3
- Written Examinations – 3
- OSCERS - 3

**c. Passing**

OSCERS:

- If 1 or 2 stations failed, only repeat those stations that were failed
- If 3 or more stations failed, repeat the whole OSCER.
- If 1 or 2 stations failed and results borderline, the Clinical Radiology Examination Advisory Committee (CREAC) has the capacity to review the RANZCR Phase 2 written examination results to assess for conceded pass.

### Implementation of New Examination Format

The new Examination format will be implemented in one of two ways:

1. IMGs who commence sitting Part 2 Examinations prior to 2023 and still have components to complete:
  - a. Current (old) Examination format in 2022.
  - b. New Examination format from Series 1 2023
  - c. Current (old) Examination rules as detailed in RANZCR's [Part 2 Examination \(Clinical Radiology Policy\)](#). In particular:
    - I. Candidates to attempt all remaining components (not able to split attempts)
    - II. Candidates have 4 consecutive attempts/ opportunities to successfully complete all components, plus a fifth consecutive attempt offered to all transitioning IMGs (a transitioning IMG is a candidate who commenced the Part 2 examinations prior to Series 1 2023)
    - III. Each OSCER station will be considered as a separate Viva.
    - IV. For those who have failed the pathology viva in 2022, a separate pathology "supplementary viva" will be provided up to Series 1 2024 (in line with attempt rules)
2. IMGs who commence sitting Part Examinations in 2023  
New Examination format and rules as per the above (attached table)

### Access to 2022 Part 2 Examinations

Due to travel restrictions many IMGs have not been able to travel to Australia to sit the Part 2 Examinations. Although RANZCR is unable to confirm examination locations at this point, as Australian borders opening it is hoped that the 2022 Part 2 Examinations will return to Australian Medical Council Examination Centre in Melbourne.

Applications for Series 1 2022 are open from 5 December 2021: [Exams | RANZCR](#)

### Specialist Recognition Outcome Validity Extensions

In response to Covid-19, in early 2020 RANZCR set out overarching priorities, principles and strategies to guide decision making during Covid-19 pandemic and in its aftermath. Full details can be found on the College website: [Impact on College Activities | RANZCR](#).

Strategies included:

- *RANZCR will extend the timeline for IMGs to complete assessment pathways by up to 12 months, if needed and will manage these circumstances through its [Consideration of Special Circumstances Policy](#).*

RANZCR's Specialist Recognition outcomes are valid for 3 years from the outcome date. If you have been affected by Covid-19 and require a 12 month validity extension to your Specialist Recognition outcome validity, please apply via the [Consideration of Special Circumstances Policy](#).

### **Want to Find Out More?**

To find out more information about the 2022 Training Program implementation/launch, we encourage you to view the [Examinations webinar](#) and the [TAR webpage](#). A QR code has been created to provide quick access to all future updates and information about the program.

The resumption of face-to-face examinations and the transition to the new examination format is complex and we understand that there may be particular situations that do not appear to align neatly with the above transition scenarios. If you are concerned about how the transition will impact the completion of your Specialist Recognition pathway, please write to [img@ranzcr.edu.au](mailto:img@ranzcr.edu.au).