

JOINT FACULTY OF INTENSIVE CARE MEDICINE

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND COLLEGE OF ANAESTHETISTS

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ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS

**RECOMMENDATIONS ON PRACTICE RE-ENTRY FOR
AN INTENSIVE CARE SPECIALIST****1. Introduction**

The Joint Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine (JFICM) considers it important that Intensive Care specialists upgrade their knowledge and clinical skills before returning to clinical practice after a prolonged period of absence. This is regardless of the reasons for such prolonged absence (such as family commitments, practice in another unrelated area of medicine, practice overseas in a volunteer capacity, or a long period of illness).

JFICM considers that in such circumstances, the specialist should be advised and encouraged to develop an agreed "retraining" or "refreshment of knowledge and skills" program before re-entering independent specialist clinical practice.

2. JFICM Practice Re-Entry Program

- 2.1 The program requires supervised experience in an Intensive Care Unit for a duration that is appropriate for the participant's circumstances, as agreed between the specialist and the Censor. The duration of supervised practice would usually be at least four weeks for every year of absence from Intensive Care clinical practice, up to a maximum period as determined by the Censor.
- 2.2 This program is an educational service by JFICM for Intensive Care Specialists wishing to re-enter intensive care practice after a significant absence (eg. 24 months or more) from practising intensive care medicine. It involves participation in a program that offers a renewal of experience in current intensive care practice.
- 2.3 The program requires that the specialist submit an individual program for prospective approval by the Censor. Essential features of the program should include:
 - 2.3.1 Nomination of the department in which the specialist wishes to undertake the Practice Re-entry Program; and
 - 2.3.2 provision of details of the clinical experience to be undertaken, and

2.3.3 an endorsement of the program and its duration by the Director of the nominated department.

2.4 On completion of the program, providing that the Director of the Department also confirms in writing that the participant has satisfactorily completed the program, the Censor will endorse the participant as having satisfactorily completed a retraining program.

3. JFICM recognises that the circumstances of each specialist required to follow this process will vary, and that the program should be tailored to the individual.

4. The process described above is distinct from the Professional Practice Review component of the Maintenance of Professional Standards Program, and is also distinct from any process involving assessment of a specialist's practice at the request of a Medical Board, Council or Health Authority.

This document has been prepared having regard to general circumstances, and it is the responsibility of the practitioner to have express regard to the particular circumstances of each case, and the application of this document in each case.

Professional documents are reviewed from time to time, and it is the responsibility of the practitioner to ensure that the practitioner has obtained the current version. Professional documents have been prepared having regard to the information available at the time of their preparation, and the practitioner should therefore have regard to any information, research or material which may have been published or become available subsequently.

Whilst the JFICM endeavours to ensure that professional documents are as current as possible at the time of their preparation, it takes no responsibility for matters arising from changed circumstances or information or material which may have become available subsequently.

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