

MEDICAL AND DENTAL PRACTITIONERS COUNCIL OF ZIMBABWE



POLICY ON SENIOR REGISTRAR TRAINING IN INSTITUTIONS OTHER THAN THE TERTIARY HOSPITALS

Background

Our statutory function amongst others is to regulate, control and supervise the medical / dental undergraduate and postgraduate education in the country Section 30(i) (b) Health Professions Act (Chapter 27:19) refers. In this respect Council must satisfy itself that the facilities provided for the education and training of persons to enable them to gain the requisite experience that would warrant their registration is adequate (Section 71 Act 27:19) refers.

Introduction

The establishment of Senior Registrars (SR) posts in the provincial hospitals promotes the decentralization of specialist services to the peripherals. It is common cause that the SR year is a postgraduate training programme under the direction of the Director of Institute of Continuing Health Education (ICHE) through the respective Departments of the College of Health Sciences. It is therefore critical for the Council to ensure that the training facilities and supervision of these trainees meet minimum standards that will warrant the registration of the SR upon completion of the supervised practice. The deployment of SRs to undertake SR rotations in the identified SR T/Us will only be recognized by the Council for the purposes of specialist registration subject to fulfilling the conditions indicated below.

Purpose of the Policy

The purpose of the Policy is to provide information on the requirements for a Senior Registrar to undertake SR rotations in an institution other than the traditional tertiary institution.

Policy

Senior Registrar training rotation in a newly developed Teaching Unit will be recognized for specialist registration subject to the DHI being able to offer and meet the following requirements:-

Section A: Essential Requirements (These are a must)


1. Confirmation by MDPCZ in conjunction with ICHE that the institution meets DHI standards for the Specialty.
2. Confirmation letter from the Chairperson of the respective Department in the Training Institution that the supervision given to the SR is adequate for specialist recognition.
3. Letter of commitment from the respective Supervising Consultant of the new T/U that the supervision will be conducted.
4. The T/U must hold at least one weekly unit meeting in its core field (radiology, pathology, oncology etc.)
5. The post must offer ongoing participation in clinical audit and teaching
6. The post must offer a minimum of 3 sessions a week supervised by a Consultant, these may include operating sessions, outpatients sessions, and substantial clinical discussions meetings.
7. The trainee must be the primary leader for at least one operating, ward round, out-patient, treatment session per week.
8. The trainee must keep a logbook for 12 months.
9. A record of Continuing Professional Development should include research, teaching undertaken, meetings and /or conferences attended.
10. The Senior Registrar shall be registered with Council on commencement of their programme and their qualification should be registered as an additional qualification. The SR shall be licensed to practise as a Senior Registrar.
11. The following disciplines are interdependent:
 - Surgery should be paired with Medicine and Anaesthetics.
 - Obstetrics & Gynaecology should be paired with Paediatrics, Anaesthetics and Medicine.
 - Psychiatry should be paired with Medicine.
(If these disciplines are not in place, other arrangements should be made to strengthen the interdisciplinary and visiting supervision of the unit)

Section B: Desirable Requirements

1. There must be an active audit process within the T/U.

N.B: Definition of a Consultant: Someone with a registered Specialist Qualification who oversees or superintends the training of a Senior Registrar.

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