

## **Summary Minutes from the 278<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Medical Council 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2011**

The 278<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Medical Council was held at 1:00pm on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2011 in Kingram House, Kingram Place, Dublin 2.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Professor Kieran Murphy (President)  
Dr Anna Clarke (Vice-President)  
Mr Brendan Broderick  
Ms Katharine Bulbulia  
Professor Gerard Bury  
Mrs Anne Carrigy  
Ms Marie Murray  
Dr Daniel O'Hare  
Dr John O'Mullane

### **APOLOGIES**

Dr Richard Brennan  
Dr Regina Connolly  
Professor Anthony Cunningham  
Dr Pauline Kane  
Dr Deirdre Madden  
Professor John McAdoo  
Professor Damien McLoughlin  
Mr Frank McManus  
Dr John Monaghan  
Ms Margaret Murphy  
Professor Diarmuid O'Donoghue  
Dr David O'Keeffe  
Professor William Powderly

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Ms Caroline Spillane (CEO)  
Mr Marcus Balfe (Head of Finance)  
Mr William Kennedy (Head of Professional Standards & Legal Adviser)  
Ms Anne Keane (Head of Education and Training)  
Mr Philip Brady (Head of Registration)  
Ms Lisa Molloy (Head of Corporate Services and Secretary to Council)  
Ms Ciara McMorrow (Corporate Services)

**Note:**

This Extraordinary meeting of the Medical Council was called on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2011.

The President noted that there was a quorum of Council members present and, in noting that no declarations of interest were brought to the attention of the meeting, duly convened the meeting.

**Minutes****Minutes of the 277<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> May and 1<sup>st</sup> June 2011**

1. The minutes of the 277<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> May and 1<sup>st</sup> June 2011 were deferred to the meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2011.

**Committees and Working Groups****Professional Development Committee**

1. The Medical Council noted that the PRES Sub-Committee of the PDC had approved the PRES Level 3 examination results.
2. Council approved the addition of the Fellowship of the Royal College of Pathologists (UK) (FRCPath). On the advice of the Faculty of Paediatrics and the RCPI the Council refused the following qualifications:
  - FCPS (Paediatrics) Pakistan
  - FCPS (Medicine) Pakistan

**Standards in Practice Committee**

1. The Medical Council noted a number of comments received following public consultation in relation to the draft Registration Rules for the General Division of the Register, made pursuant to section 46 of the Medical Practitioners Act 2007 (MPA 2007).
2. The Council also noted that no changes had been made to the draft Rules arising from the public consultation process and approved the Registration Rules for 'General Registration'.
3. The Council noted the Report of the Standards in Practice Committee in which the Reports of the Registration Working Group and the Adjudication Group into Intern Training Equivalence under section 46(b)(iv) of the MPA 2007 were reviewed. Dr Clarke thanked the Standards in Practice Committee in addition to the Groups for their work in progressing the matter of establishing equivalence of internship training, which will provide a benchmark against which future application may be assessed.

### **Any other Competent Business**

1. The President provided a summary update on the HSE manpower crisis advising of the projected shortfall of around 200 posts. Members were informed of the ongoing meetings with the Minister for Health, the HSE and Postgraduate Training Bodies to resolve this issue and advised of the Minister's intention to bring in amending legislation to facilitate the creation of a 'Supervised Division'. This Supervised Division would be for a time limited period in an improved practice setting, the standards for which would be set by the Medical Council and will allow for medical practitioners, including those practising in third countries who have not undertaken the PRES examination, to be registered for a limited period to work in a specific post.
2. Council was also informed of discussions regarding the setting of specialty specific exams equivalent to the PRES in order to address recruitment difficulties for Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Paediatrics, Anaesthesia and Emergency Medicine.
3. Members were informed that Susan Barr, who is the longest standing member of staff, is retiring after 32 years of service from the Medical Council. On behalf of Council members the President extended the Council's thanks to Susan for her outstanding contribution to the work of Council, where she has been central to the annual processing of internship applications and has also developed an expertise and knowledge base on applicants from outside the EU. The Council wish her every success in her retirement.

### **Date of next meeting**

Council members were advised that the next scheduled Council meeting will take place at 08:30hrs on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2011.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 14:42hrs.

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President

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Date