The Royal Australian & New Zealand College of Psychiatrists

SIMG CANDIDATE EXPERIENCE IN MENTAL HEALTH OF ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAITS ISLAND PEOPLE/S OR MAORI

Guidelines

The RANZCP College recognises the particular mental health issues facing the Indigenous peoples of Australia and New Zealand. This training requirement for specialist international medical graduates (SIMGs) is intended to increase awareness of these issues and to facilitate more effective partnerships with these communities to provide effective mental health services.

Training in the mental health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people/s or Maori will be conducted differently in different training programs across Australia and New Zealand, depending on the facilities, resources and opportunities available. The training objectives for this aspect of training are intended to outline a minimum requirement, but it is anticipated that training programs will extend these considerably as necessary to better meet the particular needs of local Indigenous peoples.

The training objectives for training in the mental health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people/s and Maori are as follows:

- *Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the epidemiology of mental health problems facing indigenous people in Australia or New Zealand*
- *Conduct an assessment and provide treatment of an indigenous person and their family*
- *Utilise and adapt the available mental health resources for the assessment and treatment of indigenous peoples*
- *Liaise with appropriate local indigenous mental health and health workers to facilitate treatment for indigenous people with mental health problems as close to their families as possible*
- *Demonstrate an awareness of and sensitivity to the mental health issues relating to persons of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island origin or persons of Maori origin, as appropriate.*

Examples which might form part of a suitable training experience include:

- Consultation with an aboriginal health service
- Clinical work in a Maori mental health service
- Completion of a brief research project which focuses on indigenous issues relevant to psychiatry
- Participation in an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Service Organisation such as a Housing or Legal Service.
- An approved training module in either Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island mental health or Maori mental health. This will involve a minimum of 20 hours study, which may comprise reading or private study, tutorial group attendance or workshop participation. Any RANZCP endorsed e-learning module (https://www.ranzcp.org/Publications/E-learning.aspx) or an academic program approved by an Australian Branch Training Committee for local trainees is suitable, such as the NSW Institute of Psychiatry “Indigenous Mental Health” training module. In New Zealand see the Te Iho online program (http://psychtraining.org/telho1.html).

It is recommended that you liaise with your supervisor to determine what would constitute a suitable training experience.

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

The Royal Australian & New Zealand College of Psychiatrists

It is the candidate's responsibility to complete this form. The completed form duly signed by the College-accredited supervisor should be sent to the SIMGE team at simge@ranzcp.org to update the candidate's record.
The candidate will retain a copy of the form.

Unless exempted, the Indigenous experience is a training requirement of candidates who have been deemed Partially or Substantially Comparable by the Committee for Specialist International Medical Graduate Education (CSIMGE).

Name _____

Address _____

_____

Phone Home ( ) Work ( )

Email Mobile

The training objectives for this experience state that the candidate shall be able to:	
(i)	*Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the epidemiology of mental health problems facing Indigenous people in Australia or New Zealand*
(ii)	*Conduct an assessment and provide treatment of an Indigenous person and their family*
(iii)	*Utilise and adapt the available mental health resources for the assessment and treatment of Indigenous people/s*
(iv)	*Liaise with appropriate local indigenous mental health and health workers to facilitate treatment for indigenous people with mental health problems as close to their families as possible*
(v)	*Demonstrate an awareness of and sensitivity to the mental health issues relating to persons of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island origin or person/s of Maori origin, as appropriate.*

EITHER

An approved training module[1] completed in the Mental Health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people/s or Maori:

Date completed	
Title of module	
Organisation (e.g. Institute, University, Training Program etc.)	

OR

An approved clinical experience completed with Aboriginal and Torres Straits Island people/s or with Maori. At least a three (3) month period[2] of clinical experience with a specialised Indigenous mental health service is required (or with a health service or social service):

Dates when worked with this service	
Name of clinical team or service	
Description of experience gained and of your role with this team or service	

DECLARATION BY SIMG CANDIDATE

I have completed the experience in mental health of Aboriginal and Torres Straits Island people/s or Maori in accordance with the RANZCP SIMG Training Regulations.

Name (printed) _____

Signature _____ Date / /

DECLARATION BY THE NOMINATED COLLEGE-ACCREDITED SUPERVISOR

Dr …… has completed training in mental health of Aboriginal and Torres Straits Island people/s or Maori in accordance with the RANZCP SIMG Training Regulations.

Name (printed) _____

Signature _____ Date / /

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[1] Either an RANZCP endorsed online module: https://www.ranzcp.org/Publications/E-learning.aspx or a module for trainees approved by the local Branch Training Committee such as the 'Indigenous Mental Health' training module from NSW Institute of Psychiatry.

In NZ the approved module is the Te Iho program – available from http://psychtraining.org/telho1.html

[2] In NZ, a 6 month period of work in a general mental health service is acceptable if at least 50% of the patients/families seen within the service were Maori and if experience working with Maori cultural workers or advisors was gained.