

**AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**  
**EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**  
**MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS REGISTRATION**  
**(AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1979**

No.38 of 1979

The Medical Practitioners Registration (Amendment) Ordinance 1979 amends the Medical Practitioners Registration Ordinance 1930 to alter the qualifications required for application for registration as a medical practitioner in the ACT.

The amending Ordinance seeks to achieve by altering the qualification requirements in the ACT the desirable objective of uniformity in registration qualifications throughout the States and Territories of Australia. In addition, the previous ACT qualification requirements, except for those United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland qualifications inserted by a recent amendment, were found to be difficult to administer and inequitable in practice. The amending Ordinance introduces a standard procedure for all applicants for registration.

Firstly, a person is now entitled to apply for registration if he holds qualifications included in the Schedule which has been inserted into the Ordinance. Part A of the Schedule lists Australian and New Zealand qualifications and Part B lists United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland qualifications.

Secondly, a person is entitled to apply for registration if he has qualifications which are recommended by the ACT Medical Board as substantially equivalent to a qualification or qualifications included in the Schedule. Such qualifications only entitle a person to apply if the Minister for Health makes an appropriate declaration by notice in the Commonwealth of Australia Gazette.

Thirdly, a person with qualifications which entitle him to practise as a medical practitioner in the country in which he gained those qualifications is entitled to apply for registration in ACT if -

- . his qualifications have been recommended by the Medical Board of the ACT as acceptable,
- . the Minister has declared by notice published in the Gazette the qualifications to be acceptable,
- . he has had at least 12 months hospital experience in the practice of medicine and surgery,
- . he has passed to the satisfaction of the Board an examination specified by the Minister on the recommendation of the Board and notified in the Gazette, and
- . he has, if required by the Board, trained or gained experience in the practice of medicine or surgery in an Australian hospital for a period, determined by the Board, of not more than 12 months.

The amending Ordinance also includes a number of amendments consequential to the above alterations including transitional provisions for persons already registered or who have lodged applications for registration prior to this amendment coming into operation.