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[LEGAL NOTICE NO. 129]

MEDICAL AND DENTAL PRACTITIONER DECREE 2010  
(DECREE NO. 3 OF 2010)

MEDICAL AND DENTAL PRACTITIONER  
(GENERAL PRACTICE) REGULATIONS 2010

IN exercise of the powers conferred upon me by Section 120 of the Medical and Dental Practitioner Decree 2010 (Decree No. 3 of 2010) and after consulting both Councils, I hereby make these Regulations—

*Short title and commencement*

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Medical and Dental Practitioner (General Practice) Regulations 2010.

(2) These Regulations come into force on the date of their Gazettal.

*Application*

2. These Regulations shall apply to medical practitioners in the Public Service, or others who may want to enter general practice.

*Interpretation*

3. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires—

“college” means the Fiji College of General Practitioners established under the Medical and Dental Practitioner Decree 2010;

“general practice” means the discipline of clinical scientific medicine, to patients in the community regardless of the age of the patient.

“general practitioner” means a registered medical practitioner who engages in general practice.

“medical practitioner” means a person who holds a degree, diploma or similar qualification in medicine or surgery.

“sole practice” means a general practitioner practising on his or her own account.

*Requirements for medical practitioners in civil service*

4.—(1) Medical practitioners in the public service who may want to enter general practice must fulfill the following requirements—

- (a) a minimum of 3 years practice within the Government health care system following internship to ensure enhanced clinical skills; and
- (b) within these 3 years of practice as mentioned in subparagraph (a) the medical practitioner must apply to and become a member of the College and undertake the required postgraduate course as a minimum requirement, and
- (c) a minimum of 2 year practice within the private health care system following postgraduate qualification as specified in subparagraph (b).

(2) The College must upon the attainment of the requirements in subsection (1) above, identify a mentor for the new general practitioner.

(3) Having completed the requirements as stipulated in subsection (1) above, the new General Practitioner must be attached to the mentor's practice for a minimum of 6 months.

(4) At the end of the 6 months period of attachment, the new general practitioner must practise 18 months under the supervision of the mentor either—

- (a) in partnership with the mentor from the mentor's current practice, or
- (b) open a new practice on his/her own expense under the mentor's name or style of practice.

(5) At the end of the 18 months period of mentorship, the mentor must submit a report to the College who will then make a decision as to the ability of the new general practitioner to do sole practice. If required, the mentoring process may be extended for a further 6 months.

(6) Upon the successful completion of the mentoring process, the medical practitioner may then open sole practice in general practice.

*Requirements for medical practitioners outside the civil service*

5.—(1) Medical practitioners outside the ambit of the civil service who may want to enter General Practice must be assessed for entry into general practice by the Fiji Medical Council and must fulfill the following requirements—

- (a) a minimum of 5 years practice within the private health care system following internship to ensure enhanced clinical skills; and
- (b) within these 5 years of practice as mentioned in subparagraph (a) the medical practitioner must apply and become a member of the College and undertake the required postgraduate course as a minimum requirement.

(2) The College must upon the attainment of the requirements in subsection (1) above, identify a mentor for the new general practitioner.

(3) Having completed the requirements as stipulated in subsection (1) above, the new general practitioner must be attached to the mentor's practice for a minimum of 6 months.

(4) At the end of the 6 months period of attachment, the new general practitioner must practise 18 months under the supervision of the mentor either—

- (a) in partnership with the mentor from the mentor's current practice, or
- (b) open a new practice under the mentor's name or style of practice.

(4) At the end of the 18 months period of mentorship, the mentor must submit a report to the College who will then make a decision as to the ability of the new general practitioner to do sole practice. If required, the mentoring process may be extended by the College for a further 6 months.

(5) Upon the successful completion of the mentoring process, the medical practitioner may then open a sole practice as a general practitioner.

Made at Suva this 10th day of December 2010.

**N. SHARMA**  
Minister for Health