The Canadian Task Force on Licensure of International Medical Graduates was established in June 2002 with the mandate to evaluate the integration of qualified internationally trained physicians into the Canadian workforce. In February 2004, the Task Force released a final report containing six recommendations that were subsequently supported by the federal/provincial/territorial Ministers of Health. To achieve the recommendations, the federal government established the International Medical Graduate Implementation Steering Committee to assist with the federal government’s coordinated response to each recommendation. Immigration plays an integral role in the health human resource strategies of provinces and territories and Health Canada continues to support initiatives that facilitate the integration of International Medical Graduates (IMGs).

Progress and Results

- Improved rigor in the assessment process.
- Increased awareness of IMG assessment issues.
- Facilitated an increase in the number of IMGs trained to practice medicine.
- Over 1,000,000 visits to Canada’s various IMG programs in 2007.
- Work towards the creation of evidence-based criteria for licensing authorities when screening IMG applicants.
- Improved consistency in the credentialing/verification process.

Web links

- Canadian Information Centre for International Medical Graduates
- Medical Council of Canada
- Health Human Resource Strategies Division
- The Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada

Initiatives

- Proposal projects to increase and enhance the movement and licensure of IMGs using federal funding.
- Projects were funded in Newfoundland & Labrador, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Nunavut, and N.W.T.


Recommendation 1

Recommendation 2

Recommendation 3

Recommendation 4

Recommendation 5

Recommendation 6

Conclusion

Progress of the Canadian Task Force on Licensure of International Medical Graduates (IMGs)

Background

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Charting the Progress

This poster outlines the Task Force’s recommendations, initiatives funded by Health Canada and other federal agencies to address each recommendation and outcomes created by the projects.

Recommendation 1: Increase the capacity to assess and prepare IMGs for licensure.

Recommendation 2: Work toward standardization of licensure requirements across Canada.

Recommendation 3: Expand or develop supports/programs to assist IMGs with the licensure process and requirements in Canada.

Recommendation 4: Develop orientation programs to support faculty and physicians working with IMGs.

Recommendation 5: Develop capacity to track and recruit IMGs.

Recommendation 6: Develop a national research agenda, including evaluation of the IMG strategy.

Web links

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Conclusion

Work carried out in response to the recommendations of the Task Force on Licensure of International Medical Graduates has been in response to the recommendations of the Task Force on Licensure of International Medical Graduates. The process has been endorsed by the IMG/IMG Program Directors, shown that the program was working as intended, that of IMGs who are licensed to practice in Canada.

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