



September 2015

## Connecting Medical Regulators Around the World

### Message from the Chair



#### Expanding our regulatory community

Those of us involved with IAMRA are part of a relatively small international community - we may have different ways of delivering our mission and purpose, but the end result we seek is the same - a world in which patients can have confidence that the doctor who treats them will be well trained, competent, safe and compassionate.

In the past few months as I have been seeking to promote IAMRA in various parts of the world, it has struck me just how far we share the same challenges in achieving that goal. I have met a large number of medical regulators this year and it is striking how the same issues are confronting us all - whether it is the proliferation of medical schools, the increased mobility of doctors, rising expectations from patients and governments, workforce challenges and for some having to deal with more complaints about doctors.

At the meeting of medical regulators from Latin America and the Iberian Peninsula [the American Forum of Medical Entities] they grappled with the challenge of social media. In Brazil there is concern about how to ensure quality in undergraduate education, in Chile frustration at old laws needing reform. At the 19th annual conference of the Association of Medical Councils of Africa (AMCOA) in Mombasa, Kenya, they debated a host of issues from disciplinary procedures and exchanging information to the merits of mutual recognition and creating a single regional or even continental exam at the end of internship. And in Europe at the meeting of medical councils topics included the ethical use of social media, conflicts of interests, advertising, and refusal of treatment on ethical grounds.

### Member Corner

[Medical Council of New Zealand develops discussion paper on Council's Vision and principles for recertification](#)

(Medical Council of New Zealand)

[Dr. Mungherera Retires from Civil Service](#)

(UMDPC - Uganda Medical and Dental Practitioners Council)

[ECFMG President & CEO Emmanuel G. Cassimatis, M.D., Announces Retirement](#)

(ECFMG - Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates)

[Irish Medical Council Names New CEO](#)

(Irish Medical Times)

[GMC sets new standards for medical education and training](#) (General Medical Council, UK)

**GMC consultation proposes new time limits for publishing sanctions**

(General Medical Council, UK)

**Board Chair's leadership recognised in prestigious AMA award** (Medical Board of Australia)

**FSMB's Docinfo Tool Provides Consumers Physician Licensure, Disciplinary Data**

(Newswise)

**World News**

**Independent review of National Registration and Accreditation Scheme published**

(Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency)

**Deciding when physicians are unfit to practise: an analysis in 11 EU member states**

(Clinical Medicine: Journal of the Royal College of Surgeons)

**Predicting Family Medicine Specialty Certification Status Using Standardized Measures**

(Journal of Medical Regulation)

**World Directory of Medical Schools replaces International Medical Education Directory for Determining Eligibility for ECFMG Certification and**



Professor George Magoha, President, Association of Medical Councils of Africa (AMCOA), Niall Dickson, Chair of IAMRA, and Hon. James Wainaina Macharia, Kenya's Cabinet Secretary for Health at the AMCOA meeting in Mombasa, Kenya earlier this month.

It is clear that for all the different models of and approaches to regulation, there is so much that we can share and learn from one another. I very much hope that more of our colleagues in South America, Africa and Europe will consider joining our community - IAMRA will be intellectually richer and stronger if we can strengthen representation from these and other regions of the world. An expanded community will also be able to make the case for effective regulation on the world stage and to support those who are establishing systems for the first time.



AMCOA Meeting, Mombasa, Kenya.

If you feel you can help us build this community, please let us know. And of course, if you have had contact with regulators who are not members I hope you will urge them to apply. If you need any help in doing so please contact Alison or Roxanne, or me via [ndickson@iamra.com](mailto:ndickson@iamra.com).

I am sure you will join me in extending a warm welcome to our newest members, associates and partners:

- [Uganda Medical and Dental Practitioners Council](#)
- [Australian Pharmacy Council](#)

### USMLE

(ECFMG - Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates)

### Telemedicine in the Middle East, the time is now (Wamda)

### Female docs better "listeners" than males: Study

(The Times of India)

### Website Launched to Monitor EU's Better Regulation Agenda

(Better Regulation Watchdog)

### Special Report: Why India's medical schools are plagued with fraud

(Reuters)

### Irish Medical Council publishes a five year review of complaints

(Irish Medical Council)

### Doctors in Nigeria, India Partner on Medical Advances

(All Africa, Daily Trust)

## Meetings

### CLEAR (Council on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation)

Annual Educational Conference

Boston, Massachusetts  
September 17-19, 2015

- [National Association Medical Staff Services \(U.S.\)](#)
- [Federation of State Medical Boards Research and Education Foundation \(U.S.\)](#)
- [Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada](#)

### Volunteers

We also need active members to make the community work - our various committees looking at issues such as information exchange, planning the 2016 programme, and expanding our membership are vital in taking forward IAMRA's ambitions. If you would like to play a part, again please do let us know. Volunteers are always welcome!

### New website

Three last points - first, I hope that you have all now had a chance to take a look at the new website [www.iamra.com](http://www.iamra.com). If you have any comments or suggestions, please do drop us a line via [secretariat@iamra.com](mailto:secretariat@iamra.com). We are planning further changes and we will continue to do everything we can to make sure it is as useful a resource as possible for all our members.

### Member Survey

Secondly on 24 September we will be launching the 2015 IAMRA membership survey. This is a vital exercise that helps the Management Committee understand the issues and services that are important to members. The survey results will help shape strategic planning, program development and resource allocation so we can ensure that IAMRA serves its members as effectively as possible. The survey will be sent to all members by email and should take around 15 minutes to complete. I do hope that you will take part - your views matter a great deal.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact us via [secretariat@iamra.com](mailto:secretariat@iamra.com)

### Symposium

And thirdly, the next IAMRA gathering will be in Montreal, Canada next month. This is a major symposium on another issue which is occupying the minds of many of us - how to create and sustain systems that ensure the continued competence of physicians. We will report back in the next issue of IAMRA News.

Best wishes,  
Niall Dickson  
Chair

**IAMRA News**

[\*\*ISQua \(International Society for Quality in Health Care\)\*\*](#)

2015 Conference  
Doha, Qatar  
October 4-7, 2015

[\*\*ICME \(International Conference on Medical Education\)\*\*](#)

Istanbul, Turkey  
October 15-18

[\*\*ICRE \(International Conference on Residency Education\)\*\*](#)

Vancouver, Canada  
October 22-24

[\*\*European CME Forum\*\*](#)

8th Annual Meeting  
Manchester, UK  
November 11-13, 2015

[\*\*SACME \(Society for Academic CME\)\*\*](#)

SACME Fall Meeting  
Baltimore, Maryland  
November 12-13, 2015

## IAMRA is seeking eNews correspondents

IAMRA would like to extend an invitation to all of our members to share information about significant events and achievements occurring in your jurisdiction with other members through the *IAMRA eNews*.

We encourage you to designate a member of your organization to serve as a member correspondent to bring forth relevant links or brief articles outlining innovations, trends or newsworthy items of international interest to our newsletter audience.

Our goal is to provide member organizations with an opportunity to highlight their work on an international stage and share best practices with other regulators from around the world. If you are interested in designating a member correspondent from your organization, please email the name and contact information to Roxanne Huff at [secretariat@iamra.com](mailto:secretariat@iamra.com).

## IAMRA Events

### 12th International Conference on Medical Regulation

Melbourne Australia  
September 20-23, 2016



The conference will be presented by the [Medical Board of Australia](#) and the [Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency](#) - partners in regulating medical practitioners in Australia.

For more information, please visit the [IAMRA 2016](#) conference website.

## Contact

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