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## FACT SHEET NO. 6

### *The facts on* **Pre-registration candidates and the AACP MMR accreditation process**

#### **Introduction**

Pharmacy graduates have the opportunity to commence the MMR accreditation process in their pre-registration year as outlined in the following paragraphs.

#### **Stage One preparatory training**

The specialised training required to prepare pharmacists to undertake the assessment of their competence to conduct medication reviews is conducted by a number of providers, and in a number of different delivery modes and formats.

All pharmacists applying to do the AACP Accreditation Assessment program must have undertaken an AACP-approved Stage One course. Stage One preparatory courses are required to:

- Provide detailed information and practical examples on the AACP accreditation and assessment process, and the MMR process, covering the eligibility criteria, multiple choice questions, case studies, professional and technical resources and related administrative processes
- Address the medication management review competencies including communication competencies
- Include practice case studies in both RMMR and HMR and in the format that addresses the AACP assessment questions.

Stage One courses have a currency of three years after completion after which, unless the accreditation assessment process has commenced, completion of another Stage One course will be required.

Details of current AACP-approved providers and upcoming courses are available from the AACP website [www.aacp.com.au](http://www.aacp.com.au)

#### **Communication Module**

Prior to commencing the accreditation process, candidates must successfully complete the **Communication Module assessment**.

Good skills for communication with patients, carers and other health professionals are essential to achieve positive health outcomes with medication reviews. This component of the assessment program has been designed to assess candidates' competence in communication, collaboration and adherence aspects associated with medication reviews.

The Communication Module assessment is based on the information provided in the Communication Module. The pass mark is 75% and candidates can have multiple attempts at the exam.

The Communication Module can be undertaken in the pre-registration year. Once registration has been achieved and the Communication Module successfully completed, candidates may progress to the accreditation assessment.

**Note:** The AACP requires pharmacists to be fully registered by the Pharmacy Board of Australia. Applications from pharmacists who have any restrictions on their practice will not be accepted.

## The Assessment

In seeking to find a balanced approach to assessment, which is both rigorous and cost effective for the AACP and candidates, the process combines a clinical MCQ assessment and four case study assessments.

### 1. Clinical multiple-choice questions (Clinical MCQ assessment)

This component of the assessment program has been designed to assess your competence in clinical pharmacy, therapeutics, pharmaceutical care and medication review.

Candidates have 60 days in which to complete the Clinical MCQs and are allowed two attempts at the actual assessment. Any subsequent attempt attracts an additional assessment fee. Candidates are required to achieve a pass mark of 75%.

A set of sample 40 questions is available to assist candidates to prepare for the actual assessment and to provide them with examples of the types of questions included in the actual clinical MCQ assessment. Feedback is provided with all questions in the sample test. Candidates are encouraged to undertake this test before attempting the actual Clinical MCQ assessment. It can be done a number of times if required. The aim of the sample test is to help candidates identify areas where additional study would be useful.

### 2. The case study assessment

On successful completion of the clinical MCQ assessment, candidates progress to the case studies. They are required to successfully undertake four cases, consisting of two HMR and two RMMR scenarios. Case studies are released individually.

## Candidate completion dates

Candidates for accreditation have one-year from the date the Clinical MCQs are released to them, to complete the process (i.e. the Clinical MCQs and the four case studies).