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Global Healthy Living Foundation Australia and CreakyJoints Australia Submission for the RACP Draft Rheumatology (Adult Internal Medicine) Advanced Training Curriculum

To the Curriculum Review Group for Rheumatology,
Global Healthy Living Foundation Australia and CreakyJoints Australia would like to thank the RACP for giving us this valuable opportunity to help ensure the patient voice is included in the planning and practice of health professional training. Our submission is based on the questions in your online survey form for this speciality.

About our organisation

[Global Healthy Living Foundation Australia \(GHLF Australia\)](#) is the parent organisation of [CreakyJoints Australia](#), and both are part of the umbrella organisation, the US-based Global Healthy Living Foundation (GHLF). CreakyJoints Australia focuses on Australians living with the many forms of arthritis and related conditions while GHLF Australia supports those with a broader range of chronic conditions. Both aim to localise, mobilise and engage Australian health consumers and to provide education, advocacy, research and co-design opportunities for better health outcomes.

Our responses

1. Full name. [Rosemary Ainley](#)
2. Are you an RACP member? [No](#)
3. Are you providing feedback as an individual, or on behalf of a committee or organisation?
[Organisation: Global Healthy Living Foundation Australia and CreakyJoints Australia](#)
4. What is your or your organisation's role in physician training? [Patient Organisation advocating on behalf of the Australian rheumatology patient community](#)

Curriculum standards

5. Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with the following statements about the curriculum standards:
 - a. The curriculum standards are relevant and outline the expected standard of graduates of the training program. [Strongly agree](#)
 - b. The curriculum standards are achievable for trainees. [Strongly agree](#)
 - c. The curriculum standards outline skills, knowledge and attributes that can be assessed by supervisors. [Strongly agree](#)
 - d. Training settings will be able to provide learning experiences aligned to the curriculum standards. [Strongly agree](#)

6. If you have identified any content missing from the draft curriculum standards, disagreed with any of the above, or have any other comments, please provide details below.

We applaud the strong emphasis on all aspects of patient-centred care within clinical settings, including communication, shared decision making and helping patients access mental, financial and community supports and services. We also agree with the emphasis on involving patients in clinical research. However, it is unclear if trainees have regular opportunities to hear from or work with patients as equals in non-clinical settings, such as in lived experience focus groups in professional development settings or as co-designers of research projects.

We believe patients are experts in their own care. Therefore, patients should have a voice in all aspects of the healthcare systems that support them, including the training of health professionals, and this should be apparent in the RACP draft curriculum standards.

7. Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with the following statements about the draft entry, progression and completion criteria for Rheumatology (Adult Internal Medicine) Advanced Training. The criteria set an appropriate standard for trainees:
- Entering the training program. **Strongly agree**
 - At the end of the Specialty Foundation phase (first year). **Strongly agree**
 - At the end of the Specialty Consolidation phase (second year). **Strongly agree**
 - At the end of training (transition to Fellowship phase/third year). **Strongly agree**
8. The criteria are achievable for trainees: **Strongly agree**
9. Please provide comments about the draft entry, progression and completion criteria, or why you may have disagreed with the above. **N/a**
10. Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with the following statements about the proposed professional experience requirements:
- The professional experience requirements are achievable for trainees. **Strongly agree**
 - The professional experience requirements are achievable for supervisors. **Neutral**
 - The professional experience requirements will facilitate trainees' achievement of the curriculum standards. **Strongly agree**
11. Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with the following statements about the other aspects of the proposed learning program:
- The other aspects of the learning program requirements are achievable for trainees. **Strongly agree**
 - The other aspects of the learning program requirements are achievable for supervisors. **Neutral**
 - The other aspects of the learning program requirements will facilitate trainees' achievement of the curriculum standards. **Strongly agree**
12. Please provide comments and suggestions for changes to the proposed learning program, or why you may have disagreed with the above. **N/a**
13. In the new curriculum, logbooks are required over the course of training, but there will be no required numbers of procedures that trainees need to meet. The procedural logbook aims to showcase the variety of joint injection/aspiration, including the anatomical location performed

during training and is an ongoing tool. The cases managed logbook aims to record all cases and is to be completed twice each year, for two 8-week periods.

- a. The procedural logbook supports trainees in achieving the learning goals of the new rheumatology curriculum. **Neutral**
- b. The procedural logbook is easy to use for trainees and supervisors. **Neutral**
- c. The cases managed logbook supports trainees in achieving the learning goals of the new rheumatology curriculum. **Neutral**
- d. The cases managed logbook is easy to use for trainees and supervisors. **Neutral**
- e. The cases managed logbook is feasible and trainees are able to complete it twice a year for 8 weeks. **Neutral**

14. What value do the logbooks provide in addition to the work-based assessment tools such as observation captures and learning captures? **N/a**

15. New structured learning courses with European Alliance of Associations for Rheumatology or the American College of Rheumatology is recommended during training. The purpose is to ensure trainees have a fundamental, comprehensive knowledge base to practice as an independent rheumatologist.

- a. The courses enhance the trainee's knowledge in ways that cannot be fully achieved through work-based training alone. **Strongly agree**
- b. The courses will add educational value, for trainees are able to meet their learning goals. **Strongly agree**

16. General feedback on the learning activities. **N/a**

17. Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with the following statements about the proposed teaching program for Rheumatology (Adult Internal Medicine) Advanced Training:

- a. The teaching program requirements are achievable. **Strongly agree**
- b. The teaching program requirements will support trainees' achievement of the curriculum standards. **Strongly agree**

18. Please provide comments about the proposed teaching program, including suggestions for changes, or why you may have disagreed with the above.

The reduction of the minimum number of supervisors who are Fellows of the RACP from two to one per rotation appears more realistic in terms of the demands of the Fellows' time. It would also allow trainees the opportunity to learn from supervisors from other specialties.

19. Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with the following statements about the proposed assessment program for Rheumatology (Adult Internal Medicine) Advanced Training:

- a. The assessment program requirements are achievable for trainees. **Neutral**
- b. The assessment program requirements are achievable for supervisors. **Neutral**
- c. The assessment program will gather enough data to provide trainees with sufficient feedback on their performance. **Neutral**
- d. The assessment program will gather sufficient evidence to make robust decisions about trainees' progression through the specialty training program. **Neutral**

- e. There will be enough opportunities to directly observe advanced trainees as part of the assessment program. [Neutral](#)
20. Please provide comments about the proposed assessment program, including suggestions for changes, or why you may have disagreed with the above. [N/a](#)
21. Which of the following areas do you believe will be significant benefits of the new Advanced Training program? *Please select all that apply*
- a. Early identification of trainees requiring support to achieve learning goals
 - b. Improved assessment of trainees' competency
 - c. Trainees more prepared for practice
22. I will be able to implement this program in my setting. [N/a](#)
23. Please outline the types of support you would need to implement this program. [N/a](#)
24. What types of clinical scenarios or local learning opportunities would you use to assess the learning goals? [N/a](#)
25. Which aspects of the proposed new curriculum, or other related aspects, would you like more information about? [N/a](#)
26. How did you hear about this consultation? *Please select all that apply*
- a. Direct email from RACP
 - b. From a colleague/word of mouth
27. Why did you decide to participate in this consultation?

[Our organisation believes it is important for the voice of patients to be heard in the planning and development of all aspects of health care.](#)

28. How long did you spend reviewing the curriculum and completing this survey? [3–4 hours](#)
29. Please provide any final comments or feedback.

[It is unclear if any patient representatives had any direct role in the development of the Draft Rheumatology \(Adult Internal Medicine\) Advanced Training Curriculum but we would like to hope so.](#)