

11/04/2018

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am a 4+2 registered psychologist, and whilst I agree with all the arguments put forth that it should be retired, I feel that you have not considered in your rationale, the impact on 4+2 psychologists and importance of future opportunities for us to upskill.

When it is officially deemed that the 4+2 option is no longer viable as a training option, not up to international standards, not considered to be of the sufficient standard to register as a psychologist - what eventually happens for our **reputation** among our peers and consumers?

How will new psychologists, and clients, view the fact that we were trained under a model no longer considered appropriate – will they **trust** us as practitioners? Will they choose us among other psychologists? how will new psychologists view us – will they consider us as knowledgeable/skilled as peers who have the standard of training now considered appropriate?

And more than that, for our own sense of **competency** and **worth** – what options will be readily available to 4+2 psychologists with many years experience, to add the additional year at university to our qualifications? Most institutions will not let you apply for higher qualifications if you graduated from university over 10 years ago – despite years of experience in the field.

How can we easily **upgrade our qualifications to 5 +1 level**? Psychologists in general have a sense of competency and worth based on our 6 years of training – when the old model is no longer seen as sufficient, many psychologists will want to add that additional year at university.

For myself, when this retirement comes through, I would like to ensure that I am of the same desired educational standard as my peers in Australia. Will educational institutions be offering this additional year at university so that we can have qualifications in line with our peers?

I think whilst it absolutely makes sense to take this action, you also need to consider the **impact upon 4+2 psychologists** reputation, our sense of worth amongst our peers/consumers and our future opportunities to upskill and be on par with 5+1/Masters/PHD psychologists qualifications.

Can you please factor this into your future documents, as I did not see this considered anywhere. If I am mistaken can you please refer me to this section?