

  
**Supp. Submission No. 13.1**  
(Overseas Trained Doctors)  
Date: 15/08/2011

Thanks for talking to me. I just wanted to add the following points to my evidence at the enquiry last week.

1. I was asked who I had found helpful and I nominated two members of the House of representatives but forgot to mention Senator Ian MacDonald who was very helpful each time I could not get through to various departments to solve issues. He was extremely helpful and understanding of the issues.

2. I do not think that the work of this Committee will be unnecessary and solved, particularly, by the improved numbers of medical graduates for the following reasons:

a) the number of graduates has increased but the male to female ratio has changed and therefor the total number of full-time equivalents will not change as much as would be expected from past experience

b) there is evidence that recent graduates choose to work less hours and less overtime, this coupled with safe hours campaigns reduces the number of full-time equivalents

c) most graduates choose to work in metropolitan Australia so the effect on the regions will be less despite the number of graduates increasing

d) services are being centralised for fiscal reasons and this will make regions less attractive

e) specialist training is longer and more complex with sub specialisation the norm rather than the production of generalists as in the past

Thanks you for the opportunity to submit these additions to my evidence,

John Stokes