

RESOLVED POLICY AMSA OCTOBER COUNCIL 2007

UMAT TRAINING COURSES

1. AMSA believes commercial UMAT training courses undermine an admissions test that purports to standardise the entry process to medical school. AMSA believes the UMAT training process does not set an appropriate tone for the commencement of studies in medicine.
2. AMSA has specific concerns regarding the UMAT training industry:
 - i. The quality and integrity of the courses cannot be verified.
 - ii. The cost of these courses is substantial.
 - iii. The industry does not promote equity of access; there is limited cost-effective training available to rural and remote origin students.
 - iv. Providers are fiercely competitive and operate in an unregulated commercial environment.
 - v. Claims of effectiveness by course providers conflict with ACER's position that training is not beneficial.
3. AMSA suggests the following actions to address these concerns:
 - i. ACER undertakes to increase the rate at which it turns-over course material.
 - ii. Medical Deans and the Federal Government consider mechanisms to regulate training providers.
 - iii. ACER initiates a formal study into the impact of commercial UMAT training courses on test outcomes.
 - iv. ACER produces more comprehensive resource materials for students undertaking the UMAT.