

From: Johnson Antony [<mailto:>]
Sent: Wednesday, 17 November 2010 12:27 AM
To: Kathleen Almond
Subject:

Hi Kathleen,

Thanks very much for the opportunity which we are given to comment over the English language requirements for the nurse's registration process in Australia. Of course it is a real fact that English language is very essential for the nursing study and service not only in Australia but almost all over the world. I strongly believe that the council's current IELTS (7 band in each) requirements for the registration is doing nothing to find skilled professionals in this field other than to facilitate a business of billions of dollars for the English language testing institutions from all over the world.

If the nursing council refuses to give registration for the graduates who obtained degree in nursing from any Australian universities, it is a shame for Australia's renowned education institutions and the authorities should pay attention to avoid such ill practices.

The first thing the council has to consider that you are not giving registration for an English poet. In my knowledge there are thousands of well educated and experienced nurses are not getting registration due to this high level English language requirements (most of the time they fail to get half band in any.) and the less experienced applicants get registration due to their pass mark in English.

The second thing if the council conduct a re English language test for all the clinical nurses and registered nurses all over the Australia, I assure you more than 80% of your registered nurses will not reach up to your pass mark. That means the English language efficiency which they produced for the registration cannot keep constantly and still they are serving in a high standard without any security problems to the patients or citizens. This is the main reason for the suspects leads about any hidden agenda in the name of security of the public linked with the English efficiency test 7 band in each implementation.

The third thing if the council make an English language requirements (IELTS 7 band in each) for all the Australian citizens those who apply for the nurses registration, most of them will be unsuccessful and we cannot find any security risks even if they are not getting 7 band in each.

The fourth thing there are thousands of masters degree holders from Australian universities (even in nursing) attempted the English language test several times and could not score 7

bands each. It proves that even a person who studied up to receive a masters degree from Australian universities will be very hard to get an IELTS 7 band score and the nursing council is expecting more than that from an applicant for nurses registration.

Finally education, experience, attitude, dedication and commitment are or should be the most essential elements in nursing. Half or one band, plus or minus in English language will not contribute too much in the safety of a patient but experience do. I will tell something about thousands of skilled nurses those who have more than 10 years experience in nursing and worked in several reputed hospitals as registered nurses around the world struggles or refused to get Australian nurses registration due to their underscore of half or one band in English test. Most of the applicants studied three years nursing in the medium of English because medical courses and study materials are widely available in English language only. Also most of them can communicate in three or more languages other than English and they obtained this ability from their nursing work experiences in different countries or states.

So I think it is the time to think about the reality which really required for the nurses registration than the over spread propaganda about the patients safety linked with English language.

Thanking you,

With regards,

Stella