

Criteria To Be Eligible For Full Registration

Did you know?

Under the Medical Registration Regulations 2010, section 16(1), attending and taking the Physician's Pledge at the SMC Physician's Pledge Affirmation Ceremony is one of the eligibility requirements for Full Registration.

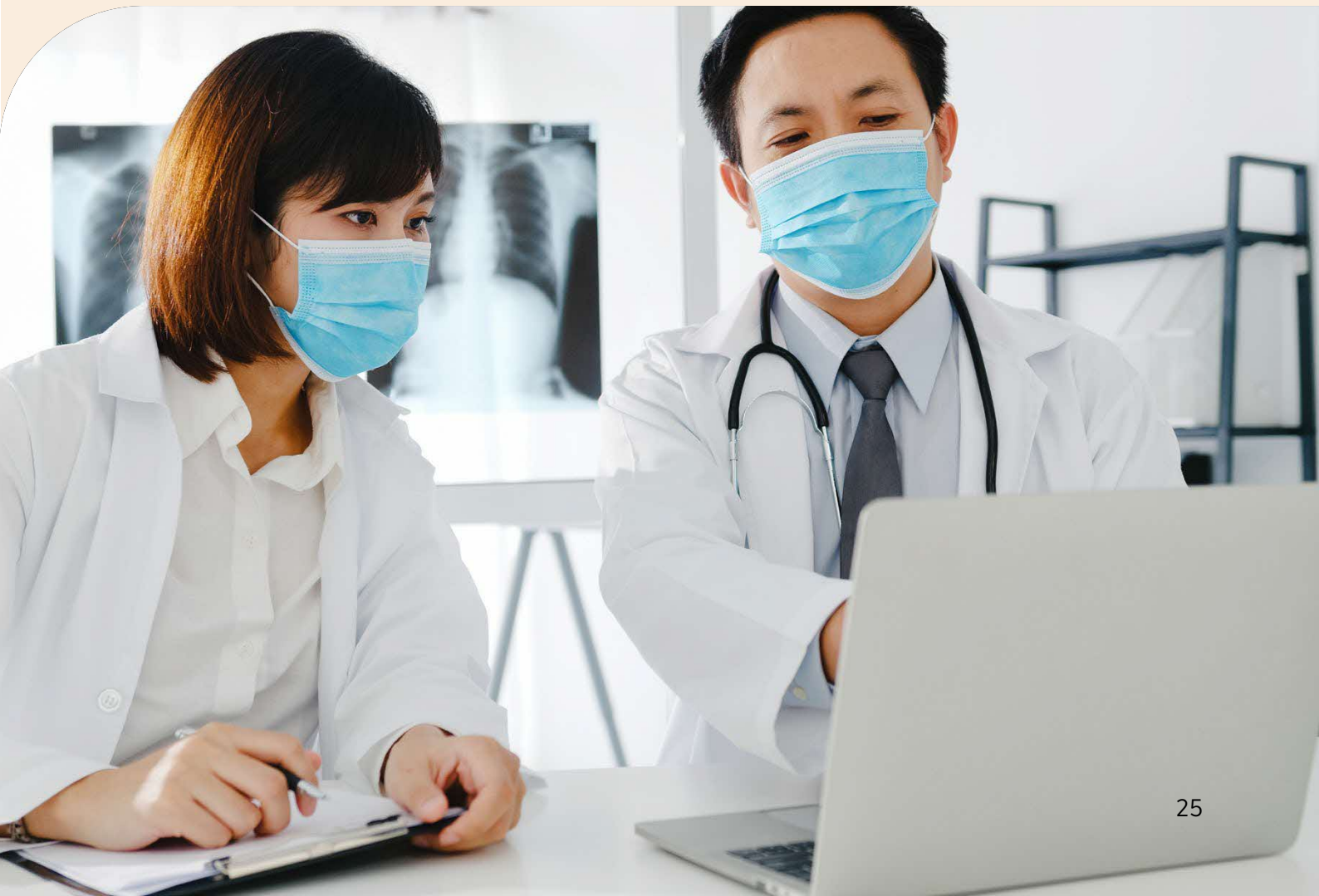
"What criteria do I have to fulfil before I can apply for Full registration (F-reg)?"

OR

"I have already fulfilled the criteria, but why am I not invited to the Pledge Ceremony?"

These are some of the common questions that are often asked by Conditionally registered (C-reg) doctors.

In this article, we highlight some of the **key requirements** that a doctor needs to fulfil before he/she can be invited to take the Physician's Pledge and subsequently apply for F-reg. Please refer to the SMC website for the complete set of [prevailing requirements for F-reg](#).



Understanding SMC Supervisory Framework



Most C-reg doctors would go through a period of between two years and four years of supervised practice. To be considered for F-reg, a C-reg doctor must be at Level 2 (L2) supervision **for at least 6 months**. It is not required for a doctor to be at L3 supervision to apply for F-reg.



Application for progression to L2 supervision must be submitted by the employer/institution. However, for those whose supervisory assessment reports have been consistently good, SMC will assist in progressing them. This occurs when the employer/institution failed to submit the request for the progression in a timely manner.



A C-reg doctor needs to be assessed by more than one supervisor during the period of C-reg. All supervisors are required to have the standard training to properly assess conditionally and temporarily registered doctors before they can be approved as SMC supervisors. They are required to provide reasons for all borderline reports. SMC will seek further details from the supervisors if the reasons or comments are not clearly stated, and we encourage the doctors to meet with their supervisors to identify specific areas for improvement.

Understanding SMC Supervisory Framework



A very small number of doctors may receive a Letter of Advice from SMC concerning performance which was not considered satisfactory by SMC. Such letters of advice will indicate the domains which would require remediation via a structured performance improvement plan (PIP). The doctor will then have to work with his/her supervisors for the aspects of the performance that require remediation. Most of these (small number of) doctors complete the PIP successfully to eventually progress to F-reg.

Attending Pledge Ceremony is Mandatory



The SMC Physician's Pledge Ceremony is held biannually. Pledge Ceremonies held in the first quarter of the year is mainly for C-reg doctors, while the one in the third quarter of the year is mainly for Provisionally registered (P-reg) doctors. Invitation to the Pledge Ceremony is not based on batch or cohort but on the doctor's satisfactory clinical performance including assessments and feedback on the performance.



SMC will also continue to inform eligible doctors, respective CMBs/HODs and institution HRs about two months before the Pledge Ceremony, to facilitate the administrative arrangements for doctors in their hospitals. They should be given protected time-off to attend the Pledge Ceremony.

P-reg doctors

For **P-reg doctors** who have **graduated from** one of the three medical schools in the [First Schedule of the Medical Registration Act 1997 \(MRA\)](#), i.e. NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, NTU Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, and Duke-NUS Medical School, they must complete their Postgraduate Year 1 (PGY1) training, do not have any disciplinary issues and adverse feedback, take the SMC Physician's Pledge before they can be considered for F-reg.

For **P-reg doctors** whose PGY1 are extended due to performance issues, they will be put on C-reg to complete their extended PGY1, and fulfil other prevailing criteria before they can be considered for F-reg.



C-reg doctors

For **C-reg doctors** holding a medical qualification that is listed in the **Second Schedule** of the **MRA**, and **non-Specialists**:

Fulfils minimum period
of supervised practice¹
(either 2 years or 4 years)



Satisfactory performance
during C-reg
AND
Be on L2 supervision for at
least 6 months



For those doctors who had not completed PGY1/housemanship in Singapore:

- At least 12 months of broad-based practice in General Medicine or Family Medicine; **OR**
- 6 months of General Medicine (or Family Medicine) and another 6 months in Internal Medicine related specialties; **OR**
- 6 months of General Medicine (or Family Medicine) and another 6 months in any of the following specialties: Emergency Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, General Surgery, Orthopaedic Surgery or Paediatric Medicine; **OR**
- 6 months of clinical posting in a Community Hospital and another 6 months in General Medicine or Family Medicine in an acute hospital. [effective from 1 January 2021]

Please refer to the **SMC website** for elaboration on the requirements of broad-based practice.



No disciplinary
issues and
adverse feedback



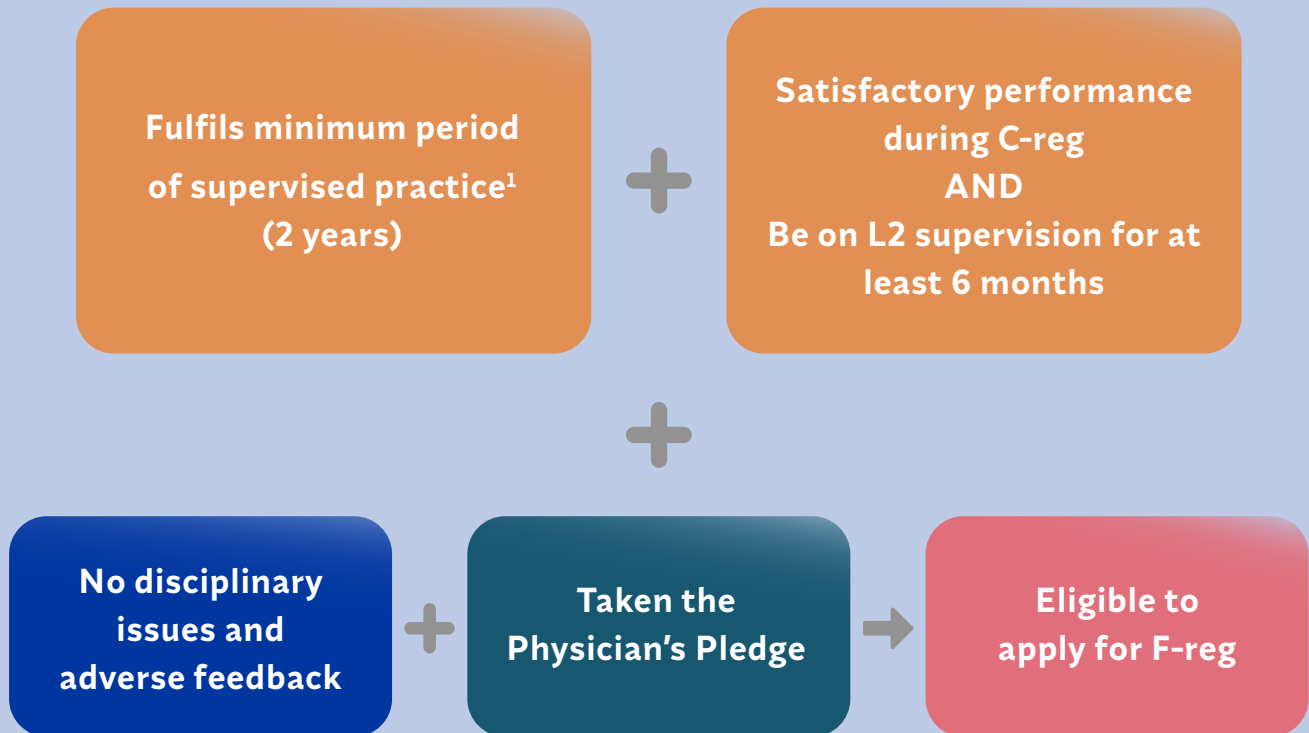
Taken the
Physician's Pledge



Eligible to
apply for F-reg

C-reg doctors

For **C-reg doctors** holding a medical qualification that is listed in the **Second Schedule** of the MRA, and **Specialists (in 35 core specialties)**:



For **C-reg doctors** holding a **registrable Postgraduate qualification**, but **not** holding a medical qualification that is listed in the Second Schedule of the MRA, and **Specialists (in 35 core specialties)**:

Please refer to the C-reg Letter of Approval which states the conditions of registration, the SMC Supervisory Framework and the **pre-requisites for F-reg.**

C-reg doctors

Footnote 1:

- Period for consideration for full registration (F-reg):
 - Full-time practice - at least 40 hours per week
 - Part-time practice - at least 20 hours per week
 - Half of full-time practice - 20 hours to less than 40 hours
- Non-clinical or administrative postings would not be considered as part of the minimum period for F-reg.
- Doctors who are in predominantly non-clinical residency programmes (e.g. Preventive Medicine residency programme) may be considered for F-reg if they fulfil the required period of clinical practice during training or are accredited and registered as a specialist.
- The minimum period of supervised practice is based on the conditions imposed at the point of getting C-reg and does not vary with any change of status or circumstance during the period of supervision, e.g. C-reg doctors who obtained Singapore Citizenship midway during C-reg would still need to fulfil 4 years of supervised practice.