

# Fact sheet

July 2020

## What is the Medical Training Survey (MTS)?

- A national, profession-wide survey of all doctors in training in Australia.
- A safe, confidential way to get national, comparative, profession-wide data to improve medical training in Australia.
- A joint project from doctors in training, employers, educators, the Australian Medical Association (AMA) and regulators.
- A quality improvement tool to help strengthen medical training.
- A survey to identify and deal with potential issues in medical training that could impact on patient safety, including environment and culture, unacceptable behaviours and poor supervision.

## Why do the MTS?

Your answers will help strengthen medical training in Australia.

Results will provide a snapshot of the quality and experience of medical training in Australia through the eyes of doctors in training.

Survey results will build on 2019 results and continue to create a comprehensive, national picture of the strengths and weaknesses of medical training across states, territories and medical specialties in Australia. Results will identify current strengths and provide a baseline for ongoing improvements.

## How do I do the MTS?

- **Interns and IMGs:** Click on the survey link in an email from the Medical Board of Australia.
- **Prevocational trainees, Specialist non-GP trainees and Specialist GP trainees:** Do the survey when you renew your medical registration. We will ask you whether you are a doctor in training in the renewal form. If you say YES, the survey link will appear after you complete your renewal and workforce survey.

## What topics does the MTS cover?

The MTS asks questions about your training program and training post. It includes questions about your supervision, access to teaching, workplace environment and culture and your wellbeing.

## What is new in 2020?

In 2020, you can tell us about the impact of COVID-19 on your training. We have also changed the questions about bullying and harassment to get a clearer understanding of the culture of medicine. Otherwise, the questions in 2020 are the same as in 2019. You can read them on the [MTS website](#).

## Who can do the Medical Training Survey?

All doctors in training in Australia. This includes interns, hospital medical officers, resident medical officers, non-accredited trainees, postgraduate trainees, principal house officers, registrars, specialist GP trainees and specialist non-GP trainees. Career medical officers who intend to undertake further postgraduate training in medicine can also participate.

## More detail

The MTS:

- Will run during August and September
- Is asking Australia's doctors in training about the quality of medical training
- Is safe, confidential and anonymous
- Is accessible online from your phone, tablet or laptop
- Will be conducted by an independent third party, EY Sweeney
- Is supported by doctors in training, specialist colleges, employers, health departments, educators, the AMA, Doctors' Health Services, Postgraduate Medical Councils, Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association, the Australian Medical Council, the Medical Council of NSW, the Medical Board of Australia and Ahpra.

## Confidentiality and privacy

- Taking part in the Medical Training Survey is safe, confidential and won't take long.
- Your privacy is guaranteed and there is no link between your survey feedback and your medical registration.
- Your contact details will not be passed onto any third party. Ahpra will send you your survey link and EY Sweeney will collect de-identified data.
- The Board and Ahpra will not receive any information or answers that identify individuals.
- When you click on your individual survey link, you will be taken to a third-party website, hosted by EY Sweeney.

## Your answers

- The MTS is anonymous and your answers will be handled in line with the privacy policies of the MBA, Ahpra and EY Sweeney.
- Only de-identified survey data will be provided to Ahpra and the Medical Board.
- Answers will be de-identified and aggregated in any reporting of results.
- De-identified and aggregated data will be published and shared with jurisdictions, employers, specialist college and postgraduate medical councils to shape future training improvements.
- You can access the de-identified and aggregated data from the 2019 survey online at [MedicalTrainingSurvey.gov.au](https://MedicalTrainingSurvey.gov.au) website.
- You can create your own tailored reports with our online [data dashboard](#).

## Aggregated results

- Will be used to improve medical training in Australia.
- Will help identify issues that could impact on patient safety, including environment and culture, unacceptable behaviours and the quality of supervision.
- Will be reported publicly, while protecting individual privacy.
- Will be reported only when there are more than 10 survey participants, to protect confidentiality.

## Longitudinal data

- Results will build on 2019 data and help map trends and detect any changes in the training experience
- A report comparing 2019 to 2020 data will be produced, as well as a national report
- Will enable comparisons of 2019 and 2020 results, using the interactive data dashboard on the [MedicalTrainingSurvey.gov.au](https://MedicalTrainingSurvey.gov.au) website.

## Who supports the Medical Training Survey?

- The MTS is a joint project of doctors in training, specialist colleges, employers, health departments, educators, the AMA, Doctors' Health Services, Postgraduate Medical Councils, Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association, the AMC, the Medical Council of NSW, the Medical Board and Ahpra.
- The idea came from doctors in training, educators and employers.
- The Medical Board of Australia and AHPRA are making it happen.

## Questions?

- Go to [MedicalTrainingSurvey.gov.au](https://MedicalTrainingSurvey.gov.au)
- Contact us by email at [MTS@ahpra.gov.au](mailto:MTS@ahpra.gov.au)