

The Professional Integration of International Medical Doctors: Implications of the Restricted Certificate to Practice during the Covid-19 Pandemic

Abstract

The Covid-19 emergency conditions and the call to practice for international medical doctors (IMD) has put a spotlight on the (re)certification of IMDs in Ontario. There seems to be a need for a fresh look into the labour market integration of IMDs in Canada, in general. The physician supply in urban areas such as in different cities in Ontario with the largest population in Canada does not meet the demand, which has triggered the issuance of the short-term supervised certificate for IMDs. Immigrant doctors get entry into Canada as highly-educated professionals thanks to the points granted to their human capital in the selection system only to understand later that their integration into their profession is hampered due to a bottleneck in the (re)certification process. This research study, while looking into the root cause of the closure, argues how the state of the exception resulting in temporary lifting of the barrier might lead to policy changes in the IMDs' professional integration.

Biography of Author

Saeid Taki is currently a Master's student in the Immigration and Settlement Studies at Ryerson University. He recently obtained the Advanced Diploma in Immigration Consulting from Anderson College, Toronto, ON in 2020. He also completed his postgraduate education in Applied Linguistics at Isfahan University, Iran in 2003. As a teacher in the university in Iran, he followed his research interests in second language education and discourse analysis. In Toronto, as a TESL-Ontario certified ESL teacher and more recently an immigration consultant, Saeid is interested in studying the labour market integration of immigrant professionals in Canada.