

Recency of Practice Policy

Purpose

To outline the recency of practice policy of the Australian Music Therapy Association Inc.

Scope

This document relates to all Registered Music Therapists.

Related Documents

Code of Ethics
Continuing Professional Development
Membership Management Policy
Competency Standards in Music Therapy

Definitions

Practice – Indicates that an individual is drawing on their relevant professional skills and knowledge, in the course of their work, to contribute to the safe and effective delivery of services within the profession. Practice is not restricted to the provision of direct clinical care and may also include working in a direct, nonclinical, relationships with clients; working in management, administration, education, research, advisory, regulatory or policy development roles (as examples). This work can be of a paid or formal volunteer nature on a full or part-time basis.

Recency of Practice – the period of time over which an individual has utilised their professional knowledge and skills and the extent to which contemporary practice and competence, within a profession, has been maintained.

Policy

Recency of practice must be demonstrated, by all Registered Music Therapists, every 5 years. This must be demonstrated by providing evidence of 1000 hours, or approximately 4 hours/week, over the previous 5 years. This must be attained in order for a Registered Music Therapist to be considered as practising.

Maintenance of CPD does not constitute practice.

The Australian Music Therapy Association Inc. will accept any form of reasonable, verified evidence, that demonstrates the recency of practice requirements. This must address ALL of the following points:

1. Evidence of number of hours AND
2. Evidence of relevant practice activities AND
3. Be verified (e.g. letter from employer)

Example type of documents that could be used include:

- Detailed letter from your appropriately qualified supervisor/colleague/manager/employer which outlines work undertaken with clients and the duration of employment.
- Detailed and de-identified client case studies; these must be verified by an appropriately qualified professional.

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- De-identified client case notes, client assessment results and/or client music therapy programs.
- Position description describing roles and responsibilities.
- Performance reviews
- Experience conducting a research study.
- Awards for service to the industry.
- Resources developed for the workplace (related to the field of music therapy)

Procedure

Recency of practice requirements will be, randomly, audited every 5 years. The procedure for documenting recency of practice is as follows:

- Any practice, counting towards recency of practice, should be documented in the CPD portal on a yearly basis
- There is no required minimum but a contribution should be evidenced, on a yearly basis with the total hours to be made up over 5 years
- At membership renewal each year, a mandatory declaration will be signed saying that recency of practice requirements have been met for the previous year.

Implementation

This policy will be implemented in the following way:

- Any student currently enrolled in a Music Therapy course – effective immediately
- All other RMTs – evidence gathering will commence as of 1 January 2020 with the first round of audits occurring in 2025
- Random audits will occur every year thereafter
- Members who do not meet the recency of practice requirements will not be eligible to renew and will be referred to the Chair of the National Registration Committee.