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## Medical practice in UK not easy for Filipino doctors

Filipino doctors do not have an automatic right to practice medicine in the United Kingdom, according to the Philippine Embassy in London.

The UK General Council (GMC) has separate requirements for non-European Union nationals as follows:

- International English Language Test System (IELTS) minimum score of 7.0 in all test categories effective October 1, 2010
- 2. Professional and Linguistic Assessment Board or PLAB Test 1
- 3. Completion of F1 (Foundation 1) training post/internship

PLAB 1 Tests are being administered in several countries but not including the Philippines. PLAB 2 Test is held only in Manchester, UK.

UK regulations do not allow non-EU doctors to practice medicine under the same rules and regulations governing EU and UK doctors. A non-EU doctor cannot submit an application without a job prospect. At present, medical jobs in the UK are very limited.

The registration procedures and guidelines can be found at <a href="www.gmc-uk.org">www.gmc-uk.org</a>.

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