

VISA PAK ISSUE 513 — 11 JULY 2022

ENSURING MEDICAL CERTIFICATES ARE ASSESSED AGAINST THE CORRECT CRITERIA

Some applicants must provide a *Limited Medical Certificate (INZ 1201)* (LMC) which only screens for the conditions which cannot be granted a medical waiver. These applicants are listed under immigration instructions at A4.20(b)(ii) and A4.25(f).

In the ADEPT environment, applicants will apply for a visa and, where a medical certificate is required, the appropriate immigration medical examination type will be generated in the eMedical system for a panel clinic to undertake¹. Outside of ADEPT, applicants are required to self-assess the type of medical certificate they must provide.

From time to time, a visa applicant will provide a *General Medical Certificate (INZ 1007)* (GMC) when they are an applicant who should have provided a LMC. This anomaly tends to occur most often in the case of partners or dependent children of New Zealand citizens or residents - applicants who are usually eligible to provide a LMC.

A completed GMC can be assessed against the reduced requirements that apply to a LMC. **It is up to the immigration officer assessing the visa application to notify the Health Assessment Team if an applicant's GMC should be assessed against the reduced requirements that apply to a LMC.** It is therefore important that immigration officers ensure that applicants have provided the right medical certificate for the visa category that they are applying under.

Assessing an applicant's medical certificate incorrectly can lead to significant delays in making a decision on their visa application, and extra expense for the applicant, if they are requested to provide unnecessary medical reports when they may otherwise be eligible for a medical waiver under immigration instructions A4.60 and A4.65.

¹ In eMedical the medical certificates have alternative names – the GMC is known as a 501 Medical Examination, the LMC is known as a 512 Limited Medical Examination and the *Chest X-ray Certificate (INZ 1096)* is known as the 502 Chest X-ray Examination.