Society of Radiographers of South Africa - National Council Members 2004

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Prosperous times for Therapy Radiographers in UK

There has never been a better time for Agency Therapy Radiographers. The UK, which is experiencing a national shortage, is desperately turning to countries abroad for help. South African, Australian and New Zealand Therapy Radiographers are being encouraged to come to the UK and work for what in their home currencies is a fortune.

But what should Therapy Radiographers do before they come to the UK? There are a number of choices available to foreign workers. Hospitals ideally want these valuable professionals to work directly for them, however there are definite negative repercussions for the candidates in this respect.

Firstly candidates will earn less on this basis and will also be tied to one hospital during their stay in the UK. Why do this when you can have flexibility and above all more money.

Joining an agency is the obvious choice for any budding traveller and money earner. Why? Simply, because, with an agency you will earn more money. Pure and simple. Candidates will also have the choice when they leave a hospital and how long they work for. Indeed the demand for Radiotherapists in the UK is so great that foreign agency workers can really enjoy a fantastic stay here. What job can be better, which is couples high earning potential with the flexibility and freedom to really do what you want to do.

At Labmed, a specialist recruitment agency, the radiography division offers one of the best packages to foreign candidates in the business. Not only do they offer up to $\Sigma 30$ -00 (R330) per hour to their candidates, but they will also refund the airfares for candidates who work or them. Not to mention their referral scheme where candidates can earn uncapped commission for recommending their friends and colleagues.

Whether it be working in the wonderful cosmopolitan city, that is London or in a beautiful country town in the English countryside, employees at Labmed really get to see and experience it all. Indeed with the British summer looming many of our candidates move down to the south coast. Brighton and Bournemouth are two sought after locations during our summer. With a buzzing nightlife and wonderful beaches, these two cities make fantastic opportunities for our locums.

Now there is really a niche for South African, Australian and New Zealand Radiotherapists in the UK. The obvious warning to potential candidates is that these opportunities will not last forever. NHS funding in the UK is on the increase and government policies in the next couple of years will ensure that more Therapy Radiographers will be trained within the UK and placed in needy hospitals. A result, being the decline of the need for locums in the UK and this fantastic opportunity coming to an end.

My advice to Radiographers, who are debating whether to come to the UK and work, is to climb onboard this fruitful bandwagon as soon as possible. Come and revel in the opportunities we have at LabMed. Explore Europe and the UK and save mega bucks for your dream house back home or that flashy car you have always wanted.

Radiographers/Social workers looking to come and work in the UK should email James Dodwell at jd@maxxima-group.co.uk or alternatively Rad@maxxima-group.co.uk

(see our ad on page 27 / inside back cover)