

## Height Adjustable Beds – Amendment to the Standards

A new addition to the RACGP Standards for General Practices 3rd edition, is for the provision of height adjustable beds in practices (Criterion 5.1.3).

Whilst this is currently not an essential criterion, the RACGP continues to be in ongoing discussions with the disability sector and the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity sector, with respect to improving access to high quality general practice for people with a disability.

It is recommended that practices refer to the Australian standards regarding access to buildings for people with disabilities, to assist in the development of appropriate designs for practices being built or undergoing renovations ([www.standards.com.au](http://www.standards.com.au)).

Practices should embrace this new addition to the Standards as an opportunity for continuous improvement.

The following minimum requirements can be found in examination beds currently on the market.

### Minimum Requirements

- Preferred minimum range of height adjustment: 45-95cm
- Preferred minimum weight capacity: 175kgs
- Preferred minimum width of table: 71cm
- Preferred minimum length: 193cms (SK)
- Number of Sections: Two sections, where the head section can be raised
- Specific Purpose Features:
  - A side rail that can be moved up and down
  - Stirrups for gynaecological examinations

The RACGP is currently negotiating with suppliers to provide the most cost effective options. Please refer to [www.gpdirect.net.au](http://www.gpdirect.net.au)

*Source: RACGP Standards for General Practices 3rd Edition*