

Public Health: Singaporean faked medical qualifications in Australia

Balaji Varatharaju, a Singapore national, wanted to be a doctor in Australia. So he made up his credentials.

Varatharaju was tossed of his medical course at Adelaide University for "dishonest practices."

So he turned up a while later with a medical sciences degree (whatever that is) and talked employers into believing it was a medical degree and that he was, therefore, a doctor.

He held down a junior doctor's job at Alice Springs Hospital for nine months before being found out, in part because of his boasts that he was a better doctor than his colleagues.

But it was an assault on a patient that really started the investigation.

He has been sentenced to jail for forging documents and aggravated assault, all the while arguing that the public benefited from his skills.