From: Michael V Sobb
To: medboardconsultation

Subject: Public consultation on Good medical practice
Date: Tuesday, 31 July 2018 11:05:54 AM

Medical practice is allegedly and expected to be based on sound scientific practice and if that is compromised then the practice is flawed. The participation of subjective cultural practices and preferences can adversely affect the validity of advice, guidance and action being considered in the context of science. A doctor is considered competent to analyse an issue and make a determination on remedial actions. If the doctor is impeded in this by the subjectivity of cultural sensitivity then there is a critical failure to act in the best interests of the patient. Additionally, the results may be harmful or fatal and affect the doctor's confidence in subsequent consultations. The current emphasis on STEM in education is indicative of the need to ensure science and logic is paramount in decision making rather than subjective practices and thinking. In the case of people with psychiatric problems, there is a need for them to address the issues and those counselling them cannot shy away from this because of the subjective nature of the patient's thinking. To do so leaves a reinforcement of the issue for that person. One hopes that the future training of doctors does not give priority to the proposed cultural sensitivity but rather to establishing a rational and objective rapport with patients so that there is honesty and validity maintained in an honourable profession.

