

**From:** geoffrey shead  
**To:** [medboardconsultation](#)  
**Subject:** Public consultation on good medical practice  
**Date:** Tuesday, 31 July 2018 1:30:53 PM

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Dear Madam/Sir,

I was appalled to learn details of the proposed changes to the Code of Medical Conduct advertised by the Medical Board. In fact I was not aware of the proposals until alerted yesterday.

I was a registered medical practitioner in NSW from 1959 until 2016. I was a member of the Western Sydney Local Health Authority Human Research Ethics Committee for 16 years until my retirement last year, and I currently advise the Director of Surgery and Anaesthetics at Westmead Hospital on matters related to Patient Safety and Quality, so I have given much thought to, and review of the literature related to the elements of good medical practice.

Much of my energy when I was Head of the Department of General and Vascular Surgery at Westmead Hospital, and in subsequent years, has been directed towards improving compliance with the Codes of Conduct propagated by the Board and the various professional Colleges.

I believe that the proposed changes pose a real threat to the quality of medical practice in some patient groups, as well as a threat to the exercise of individual conscience, and freedom of public debate on important medical matters.

Yours sincerely,

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