

From: Jim Walter
Sent: Sunday, 17 May 2015 4:15 PM
To: medboardconsultation
Subject: Consultation - cosmetic medical and surgical procedures

Dear sir/madam,

May I comment on the proposed regulations.

I am a specialist dermatologist, and I would like to ask those who are presiding over the regulatory processes, to be aware of the "turf war" which exists between plastic surgeons, and others, who they would prefer didn't perform cosmetic procedures.

Other specialists such as ENT specialists, dermatologists, and also members of the College of Cosmetic Surgery, do very good and careful work.

As you are probably aware, there was a similar attempt, initiated by plastic surgeons about 20 years ago, to limit work done by their "competitors".

They even took the high moral ground on lasers used for cosmetic procedures, when they themselves had no formal laser training, and dermatologists have been using lasers since the sixties.

There is also, so far as I am aware, no significant difference in the rate of complications from cosmetic procedures, between plastic surgeons, and non plastic surgeons doing the same procedures.

The thing which motivated me to write to you on this matter, is that on the news this evening, a doctor who identified himself as a plastic surgeon was emphasising the importance of choosing a specialist in his field.

Quite obviously, patient safety is paramount, and all groups who do cosmetic procedures, need to have this as their primary objective.

Regards,
Dr Jim Walter.