

My comments relate specifically to the medical registration category “Limited prescribing and referral only”.

Individuals in this category are precluded from any other form of practice so that under the current definition of practice they are unable to teach in any setting, participate in conferences, review scientific articles or publish material related to the practice of medicine.

My whole career was focussed on teaching and examining medical students. Now that I have retired I continue to receive invitations to teach and examine medical students on a pro bono basis. These activities would take place in settings which involve patients to demonstrate techniques but not delivery of care, settings which involve simulated patients or settings in which there are no patients present. The current definition precludes me from doing this.

Since I retired I have reviewed abstracts submitted for presentation at conferences and have chaired conference sessions. I should not have done this.

I am currently a co-author on a paper analysing the outcome of treatment of a large number of patients about half of whom I treated some years ago. The paper is about to be submitted for publication. Two of the co-authors are not registered medical practitioners. The current definition indicates that I should not participate in this activity

Most of the activities described above are often carried out by biomedical scientists who are not registered as medical practitioners. It seems irrational to preclude medical practitioners who have limited registration from those activities.

I would suggest that activities which do not involve direct patient care should be excluded from conditions of registration.

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