

From: Raechel Forster

Sent: Friday, 29 May 2015 2:15 PM

To: medboardconsultation

Subject: Consultation - Registered medical practitioners who provide cosmetic medical and surgical procedures

Consultation - Registered medical practitioners who provide cosmetic medical and surgical procedures

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the proposed changes to the regulations surrounding registered medical practitioners who provide cosmetic medical and surgical procedures.

I work for a group of cosmetic practitioners called anti-aging. We have nurses, cosmetic nurse practitioners and doctors in our group who train together at least monthly and work remotely. It is a very supportive environment where the team learn from international and local specialists, pharmaceutical company clinical trainers as well as each other. The team undertake these monthly group trainings as well as one on one sessions. We have a group of doctors and cosmetic nurse practitioners who support the cosmetic nurses by consulting their patients using real time video. Our procedures are very strict and I believe legal under the current regulations and they also provide great care of our patients - providing the patient with options and information to assist with their choice of treatment. I find our team is very concerned with following our protocol and doing everything properly - even on Wednesday, one of our nurses could not access our doctor via real time video due to internet connection and she did not treat the patient.

I feel that the proposed changes may encourage some nurses and doctors whom are not following an appropriate protocol when treating their cosmetic patients to do things correctly. Since this consultation process has started, we have actually had many nurses and doctors asked to join our group! However, it is throwing our group and those whom are doing the correct thing into the dark ages and out of line with current medical practice - especially regarding the use of real time video to connect doctor or CNP with patients.

To consider real time video as an inappropriate form of cosmetic consultation between two professionals seems to me backward and out of line with current medical practice. Our patients receive a dual consultation with nurse and doctor or CNP who know and train with each other. The patients have a past and present history taken, they are listened to regarding their concerns and given treatment options, a list of possible complications and how to manage them and there is an informed consent signed. Real time video can be used to assess the needs of a cosmetic patient as various facial features and movement can be observed and patients can ask for second opinions from the doctor or CNP.

Real time video is also vital for rural patients, enabling rural patients to access trained and experienced practitioners without the need and added cost of travel. To limit real time video may also mean that patients are dealing with practitioners that only dabble in cosmetic medicine as well as reduce the competitiveness of the costs involved.

Our team often treat in certain beauty clinics. These clinics are of a very high standard where presentation is paramount and they are approved by the Health Department and monitored by their local councils to offer the treatments that they do. These clinics are also often where a patient feels safe, they are easily accessible from their homes or work places and there is no additional charge for attending outside normal business hours (as with some medical clinics). I recently sat in a small GP clinic waiting room where there were 4 doctors and many patients waiting for the doctor. I could not

even sit down to wait! My concern of course was not where to sit but all of the germs in that tiny, heated space. Healthy cosmetic patients do not wish to sit in medical rooms with lengthy wait times and pathogens aplenty.

Overall I think the current proposal will adversely affect the patient and the accessibility of the treatments. It will of course affect many cosmetic nurses, their businesses and the businesses they serve. While I do think some action should be taken with those who are not following the current guidelines or doing things properly, it heartbreaking to think that those who have specialised in this area for many years will not be able to continue with their skill set. I think it will be detrimental to the industry.

Thank you for reading this submission

Yours sincerely,

Raechel Forster
Promotions, Education & Training
anti-aging

