

From: Penny Polimenakos  
Sent: Thursday, 30 April 2015 4:26 PM  
To: medboardconsultation  
Subject: Public consultation paper

Executive Officer, Medical  
AHPRA  
GPO Box 9958  
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To Whom It May Concern;

RE: Public Consultation Paper: Registered medical practitioners who provide cosmetic medical and surgical procedures

I have been nursing for over 20 years and have had the privilege to work in many different fields of nursing. Most of my working years have been spent in paediatrics, working with all types of conditions including major brain and spine surgery, oncology, palliative care, burns, emergency and trauma. I became a Clinical nurse specialist on the neurology/ neurosurgery ward and was often in charge of the ward.

As a Registered Nurse I have administered all types of medication including all oral, IV, CVC, SC and IM routes. These medications have been of all sorts including S11's S12's narcotics. I've administered blood and plasma transfusions and very intense chemotherapies. There was never a need to administer any of these under the supervision of a doctor. As a nurse, that was 'our' responsibility. I have inserted IV cannulas in adults, babies and children; I have taken blood and even been a part of the stem cell harvesting and return.

Hospitals are extremely busy and children had the tendency to either deteriorate or improve very suddenly. On countless occasions I took phone orders from doctor's as they were too busy to attend to the patient, these orders could be for all types of drugs including S11 and S12 drugs. The phone orders were happily given and we as nurses were happy to administer- it was our job. Our judgment on the observations of a deteriorating patient was almost always trusted by the doctor, the doctor did not necessary see the patient "face to face" to give the order.

I'd had my fair share of working in hospitals so decided I wanted to move into another area. It was then that I became very interested in Cosmetic Nursing, joining anti-aging in 2011. I undertook very formal and intense training with our very experienced doctors as well as Galderma and Allergan. What I love as a professional is how supported we are by both anti-aging, Galderma and Allergan with continued education at least once a month. I have learnt so much from the combined knowledge of the team. We have the constant support of our doctors and also other colleges at all hours of the day and night - We are a team!

What I love about this industry is that after I conduct a thorough consultation with my patient, I contact the working doctor or nurse practitioner using real time video. They will either reassure my patient that my treatment is the right procedure, give me and the patient their second opinion or will discuss alternatives if they think that there are other options. On so many occasions my patients have expressed how wonderful this procedure had been for them. They loved how they got two consultations and two opinions, they felt safe!

Some of my patients are surprised that our consultations were so thorough and that they even needed to fill out a consent form, something they had never had to do before. My patients tell me they love how they don't feel like they've been rushed out the door and they walked out feeling very informed. Because of this my percentage of return patients is very high.

I think real time video is current with our times and now widely accepted world wide as a consultation method throughout many medical areas. In fact I find this system a lot safer than the current system

throughout hospitals. I feel it's really unfair to have this taken away from those of us following procedure and making our patients medical safety our top priority. My work is my passion!

Yours sincerely  
Penny Polimenakos  
Registered Nurse