

From: [REDACTED]
To: [medboardconsultation](#)
Subject: Retirement of older medical practitioners
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In the past I have objected to compulsory testing of older doctors on the grounds that it seemed like more CPD Red Tape and discriminatory against senior medicos.

However on further reflection it occurs to me that it could be a very useful tool for doctors themselves to use when considering retirement.

As a septuagenarian, I have in fact sought advice from a geriatrician about assessing cognitive decline with age and how I would know myself when it was "time". He was not helpful and laughed at my concerns.

On 2 occasions, quite some years ago, I suggested to the directors of the medical service available for impaired doctors in Victoria that they may well be placed to devise a way of assessing ongoing competence with ageing. They both put it in the too hard basket.

I and others are wary of compulsory testing just because of age alone. We are also wary of The Australian Medical Board itself doing any testing like that.

I wonder if a private or independent service could be set up for people to voluntarily assess cognitive function, perhaps at a timing and regularity of their own choosing and make it compulsory only if someone else had a concern or an adverse finding had been made about their medical work.

It could be useful and available to any doctor who may be cognitively impaired for any reason.

It may even be useful for other professions and craft groups too.

Yours Sincerely

Tony Krins