

From: [REDACTED] LIU
To: medboardconsultation
Subject: Public consultation on Good medical practice
Date: Thursday, 26 July 2018 9:55:46 AM

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to make a submission as per <http://www.medicalboard.gov.au/News/Current-Consultations.aspx> in regards to Section 2.1 professionalism as below--

Community trust in the medical profession is essential. Every doctor has a responsibility to behave ethically to justify this trust. The boundary between a doctor's personal and public profile can be blurred. As a doctor, you need to acknowledge and consider the effect of your comments and actions outside work, including online, on your professional standing and on the reputation of the profession. If making public comment, you should acknowledge the profession's generally accepted views and indicate when your personal opinion differs. Behaviour which could undermine community trust in the profession is at odds with good medical practice and may be considered unprofessional.

This change definitely affect our daily medical practice, local culture community and personal life.

This clause is going to restrict doctor's freedom which will affect lots of doctors especially doctors who coming from overseas such as South Asia, China, India, East Europe, and even local doctors if they hold different cultural or religion background. Doctor who speak or write personal opinion in Public will be in risk of losing Registration, that means doctor will lose freedom of speech in their daily life, which will come back to affect their daily medical practice.

The most important point is the clause will bring negative effects on the best medical practice and patient' benefits. This clause will make doctors being fear to speak when having medical practice e.g. when to practise psychological counselling. While we work hard to achieve the patient's best interests, without incorporating the patients's religion / cultural perspective, we cannot assume we understand what those interests are and give the best management to our patients, this is definitely make a problem between doctor-patient relationship

Last but not the least, very few doctors realised this clause just happened in a small paragraph in such a 43 pages of professionalism Pdf. I believe most doctors will be against this change if they know how it will affect our daily practice and community life, I think Medical Board should not pass it without letting most of doctors aware of it.

I believe Our country, Australia, is welcome to multi-culture and always allow freedom of region and culture for both patients and doctors, However, this change fails to respect

doctor's professionalism and personal life. We (doctor and patients) have been working well together over past decades, I really think there is no point to have this clause in the professionalism code. I hope this change will be removed from its code.

Regards,

Dr Yu Liu